

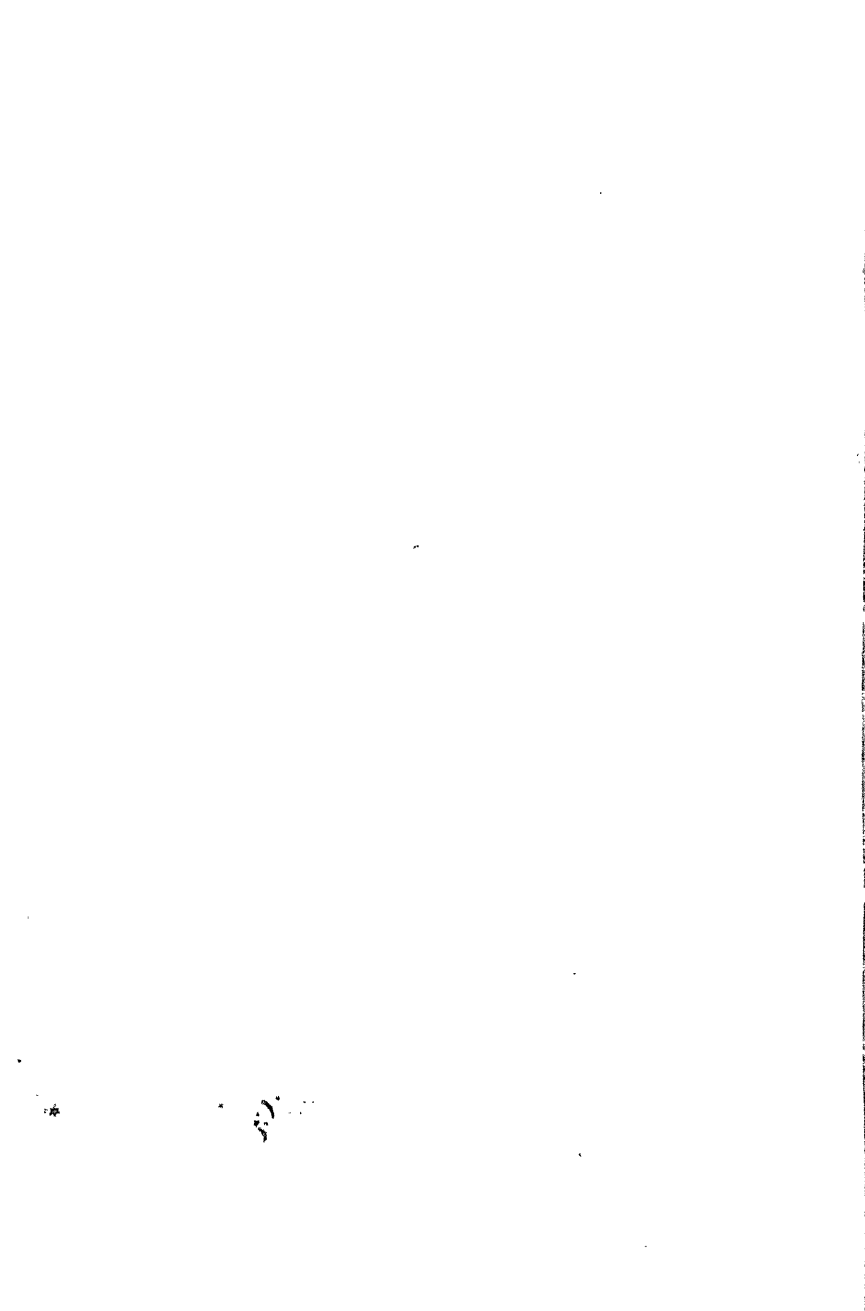
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# THE THIRD ENGLISH EMBASSY TO POONA

COMPRISING  
MOSTYN'S DIARY  
*September, 1772—February, 1774*  
AND  
MOSTYN'S LETTERS  
*February-1774-November*

EDITED BY

J. H. GENSE, S. J., PH. D.  
D. R. BANAJI, M. A., LL. B.



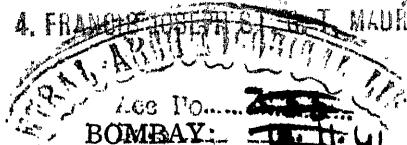
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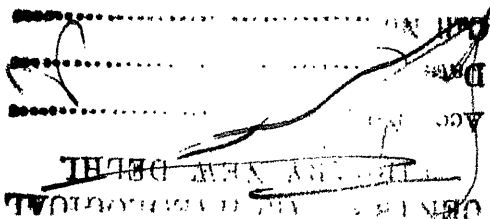


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## PREFACE

It is well known that for a hundred and fifty years after the foundation of the East India Company their representatives in India merely confined their activities to trade, and did not concern themselves with the game of building an empire in the East. But after the middle of the 18th century, a severe war broke out in Europe between England and France, now known as the Seven Years' War (1756-1763), which soon affected all the colonies and trading centres which the two nations already possessed in various parts of the globe. In the end Britain came out victorious, having scored brilliant successes both in India and America. The British triumph in India was chiefly due to Clive's masterly strategy on the historic battlefields in the Presidencies of Madras and Bengal.

It should be remembered in this connection that there was then not one common or supreme authority or control over the three British establishments or Presidencies of Bengal, Madras and Bombay. The three acted independently of each other, each receiving its separate commands from the Company's Board of Directors in England.

The phenomenal success achieved by the Governments of Bengal and Madras created a sort of jealousy in the Presidency of Bombay. For long, their ambitions were successfully thwarted on the west coast by the powerful Peshwas, whose conquest of Bassein, in 1739, from the Portuguese had greatly damped the ardour of Bombay. When after twenty years the Maratha power sustained a severe reverse at Panipat, the Western Presidency found the coveted chance had come to make aggressive warfare. But this chance proved rather shortlived. The young Peshwa, Madho Rao I, did not take long to assert his claims and to declare to the world that the Maratha power was not to be trifled with.

President Hodges of Bombay and His Council thus wrote on the 18th November, 1767 : "The growing power of the Marathas is a subject much to be lamented and has not failed to attract our attention as well as that of the Presidencies of Madras and Bengal, in order that nothing either in their power nor ours should be omitted to check the same as much as possible." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 141) For the purposes of checking the Maratha power, Mostyn proved for the British Presidency of Bombay a most willing and tried instrument, as may be gathered from his three visits to Poona on diplomatic missions, which have been so lucidly described in the introduction to this book.

In 1771 Hodges died and was succeeded by the more ambitious Hornby in the Government of Bombay. In the following year the greatest and the most promising Peshwa also died ; and his successor, Narayan Rao, proved so incompetent that in a short time he fell a victim to the hands of assassins. Mostyn was then in Poona, personally witnessing the tragic event and its developments. He kept a full diary of what he saw and heard at Poona during a year or two, and sent frequent reports and letters to his superiors in Bombay, explaining the situation and suggesting moves which would enable them to profit best by the Maratha troubles. The Presidency of Bombay, acting on the advice of Mostyn, sheltered the fugitive murderer, Raghoba, and started a most vexatious war which lasted for seven years.

The history of the three eventful years 1772-1774 long suffered from a lack of authentic materials and Father Gense and Mr. Banaji have rendered a signal service by unearthing from the dusty and crumbling heaps of the Secretariat Records, the rare documents, known as the Diary and the Letters of Mostyn, and presenting them to the public after a deal of labour and attention, which such an undertaking necessarily entails. Why Forrest omitted to include in his voluminous selections such excellent documents is difficult to surmise. He did not either notice their

existence or realise their importance. But Forrest's neglect proved Father Gense and Mr. Banaji's opportunity.

It may be presumed that the old papers at the Bombay Secretariat, if still persistently searched through, can yet yield some valuable results similar in nature and importance to those which are offered in this volume. Let us hope that the Editors, encouraged by the success of this venture, will continue their labour of love and give its benefit to history.

G. S. SARDESAI.

*Kamshet, 1st June, 1934.*



## INTRODUCTION

**THREE ENGLISH EMBASSIES.** The English Embassy to Poona in the year 1772 was the third attempt made by the Government of Bombay to win over the Poona Durbar to their side by means of diplomatic negotiations—a first and a second attempt having already been made in 1759 and 1767 respectively.

In the Bombay Government Record Office the files relating to the three embassies are catalogued as follows: *Political Missions, etc.* Poona Embassy, 3 Volumes (Nos. 172 to 174) 1759-1779.

No. 172 contains first the proceedings of Mr. Price in 1759 and those of Mr. Mostyn from 1767 to 1768.

No. 173 contains the proceedings of Mr. Mostyn in his embassy from 1772 to 1773.

No. 174 contains a continuation of the proceedings of Mr. Mostyn up to February 1774 and also a diary of the proceedings of a Committee appointed to Ragunath Rao to Poona (December 1778—January 1779).

No. 172 was published by G. W. Forrest in "*Selections from the Letters, Despatches and other State Papers Preserved in the Bombay Secretariat, Maratha Series,*" Bombay, Government Press, 1885. The records now published are contained in No. 173 and No. 174, first part.

**MOSTYN'S SHARE.** Mostyn's name is connected with the three embassies. On the 19th August, 1759, the first embassy was entrusted to W. A. Price, who is informed that "Mr. Thomas Mostyn is appointed to your assistance, and is to be left at Poona if you judge it necessary." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series, I*, 127) The necessity of this step does not seem to have arisen ;

and W. A. Price's Diary ends with the following entry on the 23rd October, 1759 ; "Set out from Poona at 12, this day, and arrived at Bombay on Friday the 26th at 8 P. M." There is every likelihood that Mostyn returned to Bombay together with Price.

However it may be surmised that Thomas Mostyn had given full satisfaction both to Mr. Price and to the Bombay Authorities ; for on the occasion of the second embassy (1767), he was chosen to represent the Bombay interests at the Poona Court. The President of the Bombay Council wrote, "It being judged expedient that a gentleman should proceed to Poona to converse with Madhavrao on several points relative to our Hon'ble Masters' interest, we have thought proper to appoint you [*Thomas Mostyn*] for this service." (*Ibid.*, I, 141.) The Diary of the Proceedings of Thomas Mostyn during his embassy to Poona opens on the 19th November, 1767 ; and closes the 3rd March, 1768.

There is little doubt that Mostyn once more acquitted himself of his task to the satisfaction of the Bombay Authorities ; for on the 29th September, 1772, he is a third time sent to Poona. "The Hon'ble Company having been pleased to direct that you [*Thomas Mostyn*] should reside at the Court of Madah Row to advance their interest and facilitate the accomplishment of their views, we shall now proceed to communicate to you our Hon'ble Masters expectations therefrom." (Mostyn, *Diary* of 1772, Introductory Instructions.) From this it would appear that this third appointment was made by the Home Authorities.

THE FIRST EMBASSY. The first embassy, in 1759, was apparently sent to Poona in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Poona Court. "Nana [*Balaji Baji Rao, 1740—1761*] having frequently desired the President [*of the Bombay Council*] to send a person to Poona with whom he might converse with freedom and confidence regarding our interests, and there being at this critical juncture many important affairs which require being set in a clear and just light, we have judged it necessary to

appoint you [*W. A. Price*] to proceed thither [*to Poona*] on this service." The important affairs were: (1) English assistance given to Janjira against the Marathas, (2) the danger of a treaty between the Marathas and the French, (3) the rumour of Maratha assistance to Damaji Gaikwar against Surat, (4) an exchange between Fort Victoria and some other place [*Bassein, Salsette, Karanja*], (5) the English attitude towards the Sidis and Salabat Jang, (6) the settlement of difficulties that had arisen in Cambay. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 125-127.)

The practical results of the first embassy were conspicuous by their absence.

(1) W. A. Price asked the Poona Court for orders by which the parganas which used to pay revenue to the Surat Castle, before it fell into the hands of the English, should be enjoined to continue to pay the same revenue to the new masters. Damaji Gaikwar, who was then at Poona, gave the requested order for the parganas under his command; but Balaji Baji Rao only promised to inquire into the matter.

(2) The Maratha Court asked that the English should make an alliance with the Marathas and assist the latter in subduing Janjira. As W. A. Price was not authorised to negotiate on that subject, the embassy was not productive of practical results. (*Ibid.*, I, 125-128) W. A. Price arrived in Poona on Tuesday, the 4th September, 1759; he left Poona on the 26th October, 1759.

THE SECOND EMBASSY. The second embassy originated likewise with the Poona Court. "After sitting a convenient time," writes Mostyn on the 3rd December, 1767, "and the customary compliments over, I took my leave; at the same time requested he would appoint an early day to acquaint me with his motives for desiring a gentleman might come to Poona." (*Ibid.*, I, 146.)

The ambassador's ostensible errand was: (1) to remind the Marathas to make good certain losses for which they were held



responsible, (2) to explain the attitude of the Bombay Government towards Angria's sons. (*Ibid.*, I, 141.) The real reason for sending an embassy was the growing power of the Marathas, "a subject much to be lamented," for in case they joined Haidar Ali and Nizam Ali against the Carnatic, the English and Muhammad Ali would find themselves hopelessly at a disadvantage. Hence such an alliance had to be prevented at any cost. In exchange for Maratha assistance the English were ready to relinquish Bednur and Sunda for Salsette and Bassein, in order to prevent an alliance of the Nizam, Haidar Ali and the Marathas. (*Ibid.*, I, 142.)

Furthermore without compromising himself the ambassador should encourage any advances which might be made by Raghoba, who was not on good terms with Madho Rao. The ambassador was likewise to inform the Bombay Government of any other family difference of consequence sufficient to affect their military operations. (*Ibid.*, I, 142.)

In connection with these instructions Grant Duff writes ; "Mr. Mostyn was sent to Poona by the Bombay Government for the purpose of ascertaining the Peishwa's views, and of using every endeavour, by fomenting the domestic dissensions or otherwise, to prevent the Mahrattas from joining Hyder and Nizam Ally. An alliance was not to be resorted to, if it could be avoided ; but if absolutely necessary, the conquest of Bednore and Soonda, regarding which the Mahrattas always regretted having been anticipated by Hyder, was to be held out as an inducement for engaging them in the English interests." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 658.)

The following is a summary of the political significance and the practical results of the second embassy at Poona.

(1) Mostyn was to avoid entering into an alliance with the Marathas, and at the same time he had to prevent that Haidar Ali and Nizam Ali should join forces with the Marathas against Muhammad Ali. This double end was attained, but not through

Mostyn's skill, but as the result of a series of events altogether beyond Mostyn's control.

To begin with, the Marathas bluntly told Mostyn that there were three ways for them to pursue ; and that which appeared to them the most advantageous they would embrace : (a) to join Nizam and Haidar Ali against Muhammad Ali and the English ; (b) to join Muhammad Ali and the English against Nizam Ali ; (c) to persuade Nizam Ali to remain neuter and to join the English and Muhammad Ali against Haidar Ali.

Mostyn could only warn them not to enter into an alliance with Haidar Ali and Nizam Ali against the English.

Then the Madras Government sent an agent to Poona with instructions to inform Madho Rao that the English in Madras were ready to attack Haidar Ali, provided Madho Rao would conquer Bednur with the assistance of the English in Bombay.

As time went on, it became manifest that Madho Rao was not anxious to enter into an alliance with Haidar Ali ; first because Haidar Ali was untrustworthy, secondly because the Peshwa's finances were at a low ebb, thirdly because Madho Rao feared lest Raghoba should during his absence create some disturbance.

Meanwhile the combined forces of Haidar Ali and Nizam Ali were defeated ; Nizam Ali proved an unfaithful ally, and Haidar Ali suffered additional reverses.

There was therefore no longer any fear that Madho Rao would join Haidar Ali and Nizam Ali against the English ; nor was there now any further need for the English to enter into an alliance with the Marathas.

Accordingly Mostyn informed the Marathas that the English were preparing an expedition against Haidar Ali, and meant to deal with him singlehanded.

(2) Mostyn succeeded in obtaining from the Durbar six orders for making good losses or redressing grievances which either the English or those under their protection had suffered at the hands of the Marathas.

(3) Incidentally attempts were made to discover what advances Raghoba was ready to make to the English. But Raghoba did not mention any definite proposals to which he was willing to agree. He wanted to be assured of assistance, before he would either draw up any proposals or sign to such as the English might think proper to tender him. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 141-176. )

Mostyn left Bombay on the 19th November, 1767, and Poona on the 27th February, 1768.

THE THIRD EMBASSY. The Embassy of 1772 originated with the Home Authorities. Some time after February, 1768, Mostyn went to England, but he was back in India in 1772. "He arrived from England in 1772 with Instructions from the Court of Directors that he should be sent immediately to negotiate with Madhoo Rao, the Peshwa, for certain advantages for the settlement in the Malabar and also for the cession of the island and peninsula of Salsette and Bassein, which added so much to the security and value of Bombay." (Mill, *History of British India*, III. 42.)

On his going to Poona the Bombay Government gave him the following instructions ; (1) to learn the designs of the Marathas, which might affect the Hon'ble Company's possession in Bengal or the Carnatic, (2) to obtain the cession of Bassein, Salsette and Karanja, (3) to avoid giving offence to Madho Rao, (4) to be guided by the principle that the Hon'ble Company wishes to remain on friendly terms with the Marathas, (5) to settle the question of the Maratha share in the Surat revenue. (6) He was further authorised to spend the necessary money to become acquainted with Madho Rao's temper and designs as well as with the intrigues of the ministers, whom he must conciliate, and with whom he must be on terms of good friendship. (Mostyn, *Diary*, Introductory Instructions.)

Mostyn left Bombay for Poona on the 29th September, 1772,

when the *Diary* opens with a detailed account of the various events that occurred from that day onwards till the 13th February, 1774, thus covering a period of 16 months. These months were fraught with momentous political changes, as may be gathered from the following summary of the chief events contained in Mostyn's *Diary*:

(1) The British attempt to secure Bassein, Salsette and Karanja.

(2) The capture of Broach.

(3) The death of Madho Rao.

(4) The shortlived Maratha supremacy at Delhi.

(5) The Maratha defeat in Rohilkhand.

(6) The contest for the government between Mudaji and Sabaji Bhonsle.

(7) The murder of Narayan Rao.

(8) The first months of Raghoba's Peshwaship.

(9) The beginnings of the Barbhai plot.

Furthermore important events are as a rule associated with the names of prominent men; and this is true in the present case; for the *Diary* gives us an insight into the character of many distinguished individuals, notably: Nana Farnavis, Sakaram Bapu, Raghoba, Fateh Singh, Govind Rao, Sabaji Bhonsle, Mudaji Bhonsle, Ghazi-ud-din IV, Shuja-ud-daula and several others.

Hence the importance of the events recorded and the prominence of the men connected with these events are in themselves a justification for the publication of the *Diary*, which may rightly be looked upon as a source of valuable and reliable information. Even the narrative of such events as are known from other sources gains a new significance from the context in which they are set, the *Diary* being in fact an interesting illustration of history in the making by one who never thought that his work would afterwards become public property. In this connection Mostyn's letters about the actual perpetration of the murder of Narayan Rao are of special interest; for to the best of our knowledge

no letters on this subject have so far been traced in the vernacular records of the period in the Poona Alienation Office. Finally the publication of the *Diary* completes the account of the history of the English Embassies to Poona, the first and the second embassy having been published in 1885 by G. W. Forrest in his *Selections, Maratha Series*.

As regards the publication of the *Diary*, it has been thought best to reproduce faithfully the manuscript with its strange use of capital letters and its characteristic spelling mistakes—for the latter, however, Mostyn is not to be held responsible, since the Manuscript is the work of a copyist. But it has seemed advisable freely to change the punctuation of the manuscript; for in the *Diary* commas are scattered in such a bewildering and lavish profusion as seriously to interfere with a facile understanding of the written word. But for these punctuation changes, the printed *Diary* is in all respects an exact replica of the written document.

**MOSTYN'S LETTERS.** The *Diary* ends abruptly on the 13th February 1774; but in the Minutes of a Government Consultation held at Bombay on the 12th December, 1774, it is recorded: "Mr. Mostyn, having returned from Poona the 9th instant, now takes his place on his own standing" (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 179). Two questions thereupon naturally present themselves: (1) Why does the *Diary* end ten months before Mostyn's return to Bombay? (2) Did Mostyn during these ten months keep the Bombay Government informed of what went on in Poona?

To the first question no satisfactory answer can as yet be given. To the second question the answer is in the affirmative. Owing to the admirable order kept in the Bombay Record Office, the search for those letters was an easy task; they are all contained in the 1774, *Secret and Political Department Diary (Duplicate) 15 A*; and as they form an integral part of the history of the Third English Embassy, they are here published together with the *Diary*.

As regards their contents, Mostyn's *Letters* deal with the contest for supremacy between Raghoba and the Ministers, which from a private family quarrel assumed gradually proportions of national and even international importance. They also give us an insight into the doings of Maratha chieftains and rulers and of foreign potentates, of Fateh Singh and Govind Rao Gaikwar in Baroda, Mudaji and Sabaji Bhonsle in Berar, the Nizam and the Bombay Government ; all of whom, either as friends or foes, took an active part in the quarrel, or played the role of passive spectators ready to pounce upon the traditional bone for which dogs are fighting.

Mostyn's *Letters* are therefore as valuable an addition to the history of Bombay Presidency as his *Diary*, of which they are the natural sequence.

Incidentally Mostyn's *Letters* inform us how the Third English Embassy came to an end. When in December, 1774, the Bombay Government determined to capture Thana, they realised that it would fare ill with their envoy at Poona, if he should stay at the Maratha Court. Accordingly they called him back in the first days of December, 1774. He arrived in Bombay the 9th December, 1774, and 6 days later Thana was invested by the English forces to fall on the 28th December, 1774, after a siege of thirteen days.

*Bombay, St. Xavier's College, June, 1934.*

N.B.—The marginal headings and any other words printed in italics in the body of the *Diary* or of the *Letters* do not form a part of the Manuscript kept in the Bombay Record Office.

The Editors gratefully acknowledge their indebtedness to Mr. G. S. Sardesai, who was ever ready to advise and to assist them with the expert knowledge of many years of study.



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**A Diary of the Proceedings of Thomas Mostyn, Esqr. on his Embassy to Poonah, commencing the 29th September, 1772.**

**Tuesday 29th.** The Hon'ble the President and Council having delivered me their Orders<sup>1</sup> and Instructions for Proceeding to Poonah (as entered hereafter), at three Quarters past ten this Morning embarked on board the Yatch [*yacht*] for Panwell. *Departure*

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, Esqr.

Sir,

1st. The Hon'ble Company having been pleased to direct that you should reside at the Court of Madah Row,<sup>2</sup> to advance their interest and facilitate [*facilitate*] the accomplishment of their Views, we shall now proceed to communicate to you our Hon'ble Masters Expectations therefrom, and give you such Instructions as are suitable to the Occasion, previously acquainting you that all your Letters on the Subject of your Negotiation [*negotiation*] are to be addressed to the Select Committee. *Instructions*

2nd. As an Introduction to our having a fixed Resident<sup>3</sup> at Poonah, the Hon'ble Company have addressed a Letter to Madah Row, which is now delivered to you *Presents*

1. These orders did not take Mostyn by surprise ; for he was present at the deliberations which led to his appointment, and was one of the signatories of the letter addressed to him.

2. Appendix No. 1.

3. In the light of the opening lines of the *Diary*, resident here stands for *ambassador*. The first British Resident at Poona was Sir Charles Malet, appointed in 1787.

together with a Present from them of a gold Sword and a Cuttarah,<sup>1</sup> which are to be given with such Ceremonies and marks of Respect as are suitable to the Occasion ; and in addition to the Present sent out by our Employers, We have provided sundry Articles amounting together to Rupees 11,617-,-, as per list enclosed, which are to be distributed as Presents in such manner as you may judge most likely to remove any Difficulties, which might arise to impede the Execution of our Intentions, which are to acquire from time to time, upon safe and honourable Terms, such Privileges and Possessions as will not only be beneficial to our Commerce, but Contribute to the Security of the Hon'ble Companys Possessions on this side of India.

### From Bombay towards Poona

*Maratha designs* 3rd. You are also to use your utmost Endeavours to penetrate into any Designs of the Morattahs,<sup>2</sup> which may at all affect the Hon'ble Companys Possessions in Bengal or the Carnatick ; and should You be able to Discover anything important relative to either of the other Presidencies, You must immediately send the necessary Notice thither and Communicate the same to Us, that We may furnish You with such Instructions as shall appear proper ; tho' in the Intrin and especially if the Occasion be very pressing, We permit You to take such Steps as your own Prudence may dictate.

*Salsette, Bassein, Karanja* 4th. By the enclosed attested Copies of Sundry Paragraphs of the Hon'ble Courts Commands of the 1st April last you will be fully apprized of the Expectations they

1. A dagger, specially a kind of dagger peculiar to India, having a solid blade of diamond section, the handle of which consists of two parallel bars with a cross-piece joining them. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. Commonly spelt Marathas. Grant Duff wrote Mahrattas.

have from your Residence at Poonah, of getting Possession of Salsette, Basseen and Caranja,<sup>1</sup> and of the Idea they have formed, they may be acquired by the Cession of Fort Victoria to the Morattahs and a promise on our Parts not to oppose their acquiring Possession of Rajahpore<sup>2</sup> from the Sciddee.

5th. It is out of our power to lay down any precise *Prudence* Plan for your Guidance on the Occasion at least till we *and* may learn from you the light in which these Possessions<sup>3</sup> *forbearance* are respectively looked upon by Madah Row or his Ministers; and even then we are sensible much must be left to a prudent Choice of Measures on your Part and an unremitted attention to the Interest of your Hon'ble Employers, in so much as to suffer no favourable Circumstance at any time to escape You, whether respecting this or any other part of your Negociation; and we direct that you at all times particularly avoid giving any cause of Disgust to Madah Row by frivolous Punctilios, which, we entirely concur with our Hon'ble Employers in Opinion, may well be avoided, and at the same time the respect due to them and to your Station be preserved.

6th. Proposals having been lately made Us by Futtysing<sup>4</sup> to enter into an Alliance with Him, which have been *Fateh Singh* referred to the Hon'ble Company, we judge it necessary you should be acquainted thereof, and accordingly enclose an attested Copy of a Letter from the Chief of Surat,<sup>5</sup> which contains the offer made us by him; but at the same time we must Observe to you that, as the Hon'ble Company

1. Appendix No. 2.

2. Appendix No. 3.

3. The possessions referred to are: Bassein, Salsette, Karanja, Fort Victoria and Rajpuri.

4. Appendix No. 4.

5. William Andrew Price. (Forrest, *Selections, Home Series*, II,

expressly declare it to be their Intention to maintain a strict Harmony and Alliance with the Morattahs, you must, therefore, govern yourself accordingly in all your Negotiations.

*Surat revenue* 7th. The Possession of the Morattah share of the Surat Revenue<sup>1</sup> has been an Object our Hon'ble Employers have had long in View ; and you must, therefore, acquaint us after due Enquiry how far they may be induced to give it up, and what Equivalent they may expect for it.

*Main purpose* 8th. As it will be highly necessary you should be well acquainted of Madah Rows Temper and Designs as well as the Intreagues of his Ministers, that you may avail yourself of every apparent Disposition in favour of our Hon'ble Employers, We therefore permit you to disburse such sums of Money for these Purposes as may appear to you really necessary ; and We at all times recommend to you to conciliate the minds of his Ministers and to cultivate a Friendship with them.

*Treaties* 9th. We enclose Copies of Different Treaties with the Morattahs and of the Correspondence between the President and Council of Madrass and the Kings Minister, that you may govern yourself accordingly.

*Cipher* 10th. A Copy of the small Cipher, with the Instructions to it, is herewith delivered you, lest you should judge it necessary at any time to make use of it. In your Correspondence with the other Presidencies it may be highly necessary.

*Assistant* 11th. Mr. Edmd. V. Lane is appointed to accompany you as your Assistant, and the necessary number of Sepoys are ordered to attend you.

12th. You are to keep a regular Diary of your Proceedings, two Copies of which you are Annually to transmit hither.

13th. The Hon'ble Company having been pleased to *Annual* allow you the Sum of Rupees 5,000 Annually, we permit *allowance* you to charge the same in your Accounts; or it shall be paid here, as may be most acceptable to you.

14th. We sincerely wish you success in your Negotiations, and are Your loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

BRICE FLETCHER

DANIEL DRAPER

WILLIAM TAYLER

DAVID WEDDERBURN

WILLIAM SHAW

THOMAS MOSTYN

ROBERT GARDEN

NATHANIEL STACKHOUSE

BOMBAY, 26th September, 1772.

At 2 o'clock P.M. passed Bellappor Fort;<sup>1</sup> after paying my Compliments to the Havalдар<sup>2</sup> and answering his *The* Salute of two Guns, proceeded up the River, and at 5 in the *journey* Evening reached Panwell.<sup>3</sup> The Havalдар, Gopal Row Bahput, sent to congratulate me, and requested I would go on Shore, having prepared a place for my Reception. Returned my Compliments; but the Tide being out, and the Road to the Town very muddy, declined his Invitations untill Morning.

**Wednesday 30th.** Early in the morning landed, sent my Compliments to the Havalдар to request he would be expeditious in supplying me with Biggarees<sup>4</sup> and Horses

1. The island of Belapur is about a mile long and less than a mile broad; its fort commands the entrance of the Panvel river, about five miles west of Panvel. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. XIV, 43*)

2. A subordinate officer, and among the Marathas the commandant of a fort was so styled.

3. Panvel lies on a creek, and is about 16 miles east of Bombay on the Poona Road. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. XIV, 293*)

*N. B.* The Panvel-Poona Road : Appendix No. 6.

4. Begar, bigarry, means forced labour, a person pressed to carry a load or do other work really or professedly for public service. In some provinces *begar* is the forced labour, and *bigari* the pressed man. (Hobson-Jobson)



for my Baggage and Servants, the which he promised to do early the next morning.

### October

*Delay*      **Thursday 1st.** At 7 this morning set out from Panwell; but not being able to procure Biggarees sufficient, hired Bullocks for the remainder, and left the Purvoe<sup>1</sup> with a party of Sepoys to escort it; at 10 arrived at Barway, where resting my people a little, proceeded and got to Chouk<sup>2</sup> about 12. At 4 set out and reached Collapore at 6.

*Deserters*      **Friday 2nd.** The greatest part of my Baggage and necessaries not being come up, am under the necessity of staying here this day. This afternoon one of the Chopdars,<sup>3</sup> seeing two Europeans going thro' the Village, who, enquiring the Road to Poonah, were by him Conducted to me. They proved to be two seamen by name Richard Carpenter and Thomas Kerby, who had early the morning before deserted from the Royal Charlotte.

*Journey*      **Saturday 3rd.** Very early this Morning sent away the two Deserters under Charge of two Bombay, and two Country-Sepoy, with a short Address to the Government; at 6 o'clock set out, the great part of my necessaries are Yet behind, but purpose waiting at Dunger Gome, the first Stage on the other side the Gotts, until the whole

1. The popular name of the writing caste. The Prabhus were a caste of literary and administrative officers. (Gupte) Every native of India on the Bombay Establishment who can write, and is employed in any office, whether he be a Brahman, Goldsmith, Parwary, Portuguese, or of English descent, is styled a purvoe. (Hobson-Jobson under 'parvoe')

2. For the places here mentioned in the *Diary* see Appendix No. 6, II.

3. Stick-bearers carrying a stick overlaid with silver. They are still a part of the state of the Viceroy, Governors, and Judges of the High Court.

arrive ; at 8 reached Compolie, a Village at the foot of Gotts, rested an Hour, and reached Condolah, a Chowkey on the Summit at twelve, and at 2 arrived at Dunger Gome.

**Sunday 4th.** This morning, part of Baggage came up ; *Linguist* but the remainder will not, I fear, till to morrow, which *to Poona* will Occasion my staying here another day ; however in the meanwhile have dispatched the Linguist<sup>1</sup> with Letters to Madah Row, Sacaram Bapoo<sup>2</sup> and Ramajee Chitneess,<sup>3</sup> to acquaint them of my being thus far on my way, in order a Place might be provided for my Reception, and a proper Person appointed to meet and Conduct me into Poonah.

**Monday 5th.** The Purvoo that Night arriving with *Journey* most of my necessaries, determined to proceed and wait at *continued* Wanhra for the rest, which will save time, as it will be necessary to stay there untill I hear from the Linguist. Accordingly at 8 set out ; at 9 passed by the Village of Poll and the Forts of Tong and Ticonah on the right, and Loogur and Essapoor on the left ; past Cordah a Village at 11 and got to Sewney before two ; it being early, after resting the People, proceeded, and reached Chanhier at 5 in the Evening.

**Tuesday 6th.** At about 6 this morning, proceeded on our journey and got to Wanhra before nine. Wrote the Linguist to Advise me as soon as possible what Place was fixed for my Reception, that I might send such part of my baggage as is arrived.

1. An old word for interpreter, formerly much used in the East.

2. Appendix No. 7.

3. A Chitnis is a secretary, a clerk of correspondence. Ramaji Chitnis is already mentioned in *Mostyns Diary* of 1767 : "After waiting about half an hour, Ramaji, Madharav's Head Chitnis arrived." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 145)

*Further delay* **Wednesday 7th.** At Noon received a Letter from the Linguist, acquainting me that Govind Sewrams<sup>1</sup> Garden was Ordered ready for me, and that Ramajee Chitneess was appointed to meet me and Conduct me to it. But part of the Baggage with the Purvoo and Sepoys not being yet come up, *could not*<sup>2</sup> set out untill the morning. Late at night received another Letter from the Linguist, informing me that Govind Sewrams son had made some objection to my having his Garden; and as Naron Row<sup>3</sup> and Sacaram Bappoo were both gone to Teur<sup>4</sup> to Visit Madah Row who is there on account his health, The Place for my abode could not be fixed untill they returned; therefore desired I would wait untill he should write me again.

*Conspirators* **Thursday 8th.** Early this morning, returned the Sepoy to the Linguist, acquainting him that I should, agreeable to his Letter, wait till I heard from him again. This afternoon one Rajaram Punt, Carcoon,<sup>5</sup> was carried Prisoner thro' the Village; enquiring who he was, where going, and on what account made prisoner, learnt that he with three others, by Name Madhew Punt Goleah, Kesew Punt Goleah and Rumchunder Punt Batveah, had the day before been seized during the Ceremony of Dessorah,<sup>6</sup>

1. Govind Sew Ram was one of Balaji Baji Rao's principal ministers. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 129) In 1761 he concluded a treaty in the name of the Peshwa with the Bombay Government. (Grant-Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 627)

2. The page of the manuscript is torn, so that the last two words of the written line are illegible. They may be *could not* or *did not*.

3. Appendix No. 8.

4. Madho Rao's favourite village, 13 miles from Poona. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 665)

5. Faciendorum factor, manager, agent. (Hobson-Jobson)

6. This holiday, taking place after the close of the wet season, became a great military festival and the period when military expeditions were entered upon. Grant Duff gives an interesting account of

for having jointly wrote a Letter, which, they say, was intercepted, to the Nizam, giving him some information Prejudicial to this Sarcar.<sup>1</sup> These four Men, I am told, were last year fined in a Lack of Rupees on a suspicion of the same crime. They are sent to different Forts, one to Logur, one to Andanugur, and two to Essapoor.<sup>2</sup> These people are suspected to be in the Interest of Ragobah,<sup>3</sup> who, it seems, is disgusted, and now about nine Coase from Poonah. At half past eight P.M. received an Answer from *Near* the Linguist, advising me, the difficulty being removed, *Poonah* Govind Sewrams Garden was fixed for my reception. Returned the Sepoy, acquainting him I should set out early in the morning, and would stop at Gunis Kind<sup>4</sup> untill Ramajee Chitnees came to conduct me into Town.

**Friday 9th.** This morning proceeded, and about 10 *Arrival* Ramajee Chitnees met me, accompanied by Crust Row *at Poonah* Nago Row, Mahomet Ally Cauns<sup>5</sup> Vackeel; at 12 got to Govind Sewrams Garden. Ramajee, after making me a Tender of his Services which I readily accepted, and requesting his assistance in adjusting the Presents to be given at my first audience, took his leave, promising to see me again as soon as he had reported to Madah Raw my being come into Poonah. Left one Panderung Punt, Carcoon, to attend any Commands I might have.

the manner in which "the ancient Hindu festival of the Dussera was observed by Shivaji with great pomp." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 194)

1. It means *head of affairs*. It is the name given to the State, the Government, the supreme authority in the land, and to administrative divisions of territory, when in English it is generally spelt 'Circar'. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. Logarh, Ahmadnagar, Visapur.

3. Appendix No. 9.

4. Ganeshkhind.

5. Appendix No. 10.

*Ministers absent* **Saturday 10th.** I am this morning informed that Madah Row yesterday sent for all his Ministers to Teur, to determine what to do with his Uncle, Ragobah, whom he has again made Prisoner; others say Madah Rows life being in danger is the cause of their Going. From the best Intelligence I can procure, the first is the reason of their being sent for, tho' their detention (for they are yet there) is, I believe, owing to the latter.

*Ragho-ba's plot* The intelligence I procured at Wanhra regarding the four prisoners is in part true, tho' their Crime is of a much higher nature. It seems these four were the Principal People about Ragobahs Person, and whom he had impowered by writing to raise ten Thousand Horse, with an intent, as it's said, to surprize Poonah, seize his Nephews and take the Governmt. into his own hands. Their Letters to the different Officers, in their Interest to raise these Men and appointing a Place of Rendezvous, were intercepted;<sup>1</sup> and on their being made Prisoners, produced Ragobahs order for their doing it. They were immediately sent to different Forts, and a Force sent to bring Ragobah to Teur where he now is.

*M. Rao's illness* **Sunday 11th.** Naron Row with all the Ministers are yet at Teur, tho' I hear Madah Rao is something better, but still in a very bad way, which I fear will prevent for some time my having an Audience.

*Further delay* **Monday 12th.** Ramajee Chitnees, who came into Town last Night, has sent me word He will wait on me in the Morning, to day being an unlucky day, to acquaint me with Madah Rows determination with respect to my first Visit.

*Official welcome* **Tuesday 13th.** This morning Ramajee Chitnees, agreeable to his message yesterday, came with Madah

1. *Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XVIII, II, 254 and Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 695.

Rows Compliments : That his Master was very anxious to see me ; but being at present very weak and unable to sit up, must defer it untill he was somewhat better, when he would send for me ; however in the meantime his brother, Naron Row, would receive me at the Durbar,<sup>1</sup> and in every Respect transact business in the same manner as if he was present. I asked him when I might expect the Honor of an Audience. He told me Naron Row was still at Teur, but believed he would come to Town in the Evening ; if not, He would go in the morning and bring Him, when an early day would be fixed ; after settling the Presents necessary to be given, took his leave ; Madah Row, from all I can learn of Ramajee Chitnees and others, is extremely Ill, and it's believed cannot long survive.

**Thursday 15th.** This Evening Ragobah after much *Raghoba* persuasion came quietly into Town, the which he had *in Poona* hitherto obstinately refused.<sup>2</sup>

**Friday 16th.** Early this morning Ramajee Chitnees *Excuses* made me a Visit ; with Madah Rows Compliments, was sorry I should have been so long in Poonah without having an Audience ; but as it was entirely owing to his Indisposition, hoped I would excuse it ; That Naron Row would this Afternoon come to Town and request to see me at the Durbar.

1. The main Diwankhana or Durbar hall in the Shanwar Wada palace was the Ganpati Rangamahall. Here Mr. Mostyn, Col. Upton and many other English gentlemen were received. (Parasnis, *Poona in By-gone Days*, pp. 1, 8, 15)

2. As Raghoba was more than once found plotting against Madho Rao, certain regulations were drafted by Nana Farnavis, to which Raghoba was asked to conform. One of these regulations ran as follows : "Not to ask to quit the city," (Briggs, *Secret Correspondence of the Court of the Peshwa*, quoted by M. K. Trilokekar in his Ms. thesis on *Nana Farnavis*, p. 34)

*The Durbar* Agreeable to the above message, Naron Row about five in the evening sent Panderung Punt to accompany me to the Durbar, where He was waiting to receive me, a Compliment not usually paid. The accustomed Salutation being over, I first Presented him with the Hon'ble Companys Letter and present as Previously settled with Ramajee Chitnees, distinguishing those for Madah Row, and for him [*Narayan Rao*]. After sitting a Convenient time, and requested Ramajee would procure me an Answer to the Hon'ble Companys and Presidents Letters as soon as possible, took my leave.

*Nature of embassy* **Saturday 17th.** Early this Morning the Chitnees again paid me a Visit, I imagined, purposely to learn if I had any Particular Business<sup>1</sup> to treat on. I told Him the Hon'ble Companys Letter Explained the Nature of my Embassy; but should anything occur hereafter for the mutual Benefits of both Parties, it might then be necessary to come to Particulars. I also said I had few Memorandums regarding Orders, which had been Issued, but not Obeyed, the which I would lay before them by and by; but at present I could wish to have at least a Verbal Answer to the Hon'ble Companys Letter, that I might acquaint my Superiors therewith. Their Letters in reply thereto might be sent afterwards. He told me they should this afternoon consult about it, and Naron Row would inform me of the result in the Morning. He then asked me my Opinion *Janjira revolution* with Respect to the Conduct of Sciddee Rahim,<sup>2</sup> whom He thought had treated Us with great disrespect, considering

1. Mostyn's appointment was made under instructions from the Court of Directors. The object of the appointment nominally was to keep the different Presidencies informed of the movements and the intentions of the Marathas. The real object of the mission was to obtain the cession of Salsette and the islands of the Bombay harbour. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XVII, 255, note 1)

2. Appendix No. 11.

the trouble we had been at in Settling Terms for him with Sciddee Yacood, and being, as he understood, Guarantees for the performance of the Treaty entered into between them. I told him we could not approve of Sciddee Rahims conduct in seizing the Government from Sciddee Yacood without apprizing Us; but as, at the time I left Bombay, we were not certain how the Revolution was brought about, I could not be a Judge which of them was right or wrong. Ramajee then said it was true Sciddee Rahim had not as yet treated this Government Ill, tho' He had at times shewed a disposition towards it by refusing to abide by the agreements made between this Government and Sciddee Yacood. I observe Ramajee almost every time I have conversed with him, he brought in the Affairs of Gingerah [*Janjira*] with a View, I judge, to know how we should act, should they break with the Sciddee; and I have as often assured him we should undoubtedly preserve that Place to the Sciddee. My giving them the least intimation<sup>1</sup> of our Intentions now, I am clear, would be of no service; for they will come to no determination without the approbation of Madah Row, who is too Ill at present to attend much to Business. It will, however, be necessary for me to apprise the Select Committee to keep a watchful Eye over the Sciddee, more especially so, as I hear my coming here has made him suspicious something may be in agitation respecting him, as His Agent has been here some time; but they have not yet returned an Answer to his Letter.

Poona  
non-inter-  
ference

**Sunday 18th.** Early this morning Naron Row sent Panderung Punt to request I would dine with him to day.

1. In the instructions given to Mostyn it is explicitly stated that Salsette, Bassein and Karanja might be acquired by the cession of Fort Victoria to the Marathas and a promise on the part of the English not to oppose the Marathas acquiring possession of Rajpuri from the Sidi. (*Diary*, September 29, 1772) Mostyn thought it wise not to make mention of this.



I acquainted him I would with Pleasure wait on him, but desired a person might be sent to conduct me thither at the proper time. Accordingly about ten o'clock I was sent for, where I found him again waiting to Receive me. After conversing some time about indifferent matters, He acquainted me dinner was ready and attended me to the Place prepared; after dinner We returned again to the Audience Chamber, when I requested Ramajee Chitnees to

*Poona* procure me an Answer to the Hon'ble Companys Letter.  
*reply* He accordingly spoke to Naron Row, who replied he should the next day go to his Brother at Teur, when they would consider of it. I repeated my request for a Verbal one, Ramajee Chitnees acquainted me that the Duan,<sup>1</sup> Sacaram Bappoo, not being able to be present on Acct. his mourning for a Relation, and who Naron Row chose should give it me, desired I would wait untill to morrow Morning, when he would go to Sacaram Bappoo, who would request my presence and give me an Answer. I then took my leave.

*Poona* **Monday 19th.** Early this morning Sacaram Bappo  
*reply* sent to request he might have the Pleasure of seeing me. Immediately waited on him; after making him the usual Present, I begged to know the Durbars Answer to the Companys and Presidents Letter. He replied the Durbar with great Pleasure observed the desire the Company had to be upon the most Friendly footing with this Government, and which was what they had long equally wished for. They therefore very readily Consented to my remaining here as Resident for the Company, which, he hoped, would be a means of fixing our Friendship upon a lasting foundation. I told him it was with this View the Hon'ble Company had sent me here, and nothing on our parts would be wanting to accomplish this desirable end. I then asked

1. Under the Marathas the diwan was the chief minister after the pradhan. (Whitworth)

him how long it might be, before I should have the Honour of transmitting the Answers. He said it might be some days before the Letters could be ready, as it would be necessary for them to go to Teur to advise with Madah Row about it; but that I might acquaint my Superiors at Bombay with their Determination. I then took my leave.

Finding it necessary to wait on all the Principal Ministers, This afternoon went to Nanna<sup>1</sup> Furneze,<sup>2</sup> who *Official* confirmed what Sacaram Bappoo had told me in the *visits* morning.

**Tuesday 20th.** This morning sent the Linguist to Morabah Furneze<sup>3</sup> and Nilcut Row, Govind Sewrams Son, to acquaint them, if they were at leasure, I would do myself the Pleasure of waiting on them this Afternoon. Also to Vissajee Punt, who, tho' a Person of Inferior Rank and no Minister, has great weight and influence with Sacaram Bappoo, and being head Subedar<sup>4</sup> of the Conkon, I judged it necessary to pay him some kind of Respect. The other Ministers being most of them with Madah Row, I must defer waiting on them till they come to Town. This afternoon paid the above Visits, when they all Confirmed what Sacaram Bappoo Yesterday told me. Resolved to acquaint the Governor and Council therewith and my proceedings to this time.

**Wednesday 21st.** To day am Informed that all *Ministers* the Ministers, except Morabah Furneze, are gone to Teur. *in Teur*

1. Appendix No. 12.

2. A farnavis is the head civil officer, a term almost synonymous with that of minister of finance (Macdonald, *Memoir and Life of the Late Nana Farnavis*, p. 2)

3. Appendix No. 13.

4. Subadar is one who holds a suba or province; it may mean a viceroy, a governor, etc. (Hobson-Jobson) Subhedar is the Marathi form of subadar. (Whitworth) Elsewhere in the *Diary* the head-subadar, is called the Seer Subedar or Sur Subedar; *seer* and *sur* being a corruption of the Persian *sar* meaning *head*.

*Letter to*      **Thursday 22nd.** Early this Morning dispatched the  
*Bombay* following Address to my Superiors.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca COUNCIL on  
 BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,<sup>1</sup>

*Journey*      Having procured Biggarees and Bullocks for transporting part of my Baggage, on the 1st Instant set out from Panwell and got to Vanhara within four Cose of Poonah the 6th. The fourth I dispatched the Linguist with Letters to Madah Row, Sacaram Bappoo and Ramajee Chitnees, to apprize them of my being on my way, in order that a Place might be provided for my Reception, and a proper person appointed to meet and conduct me into Poonah. The 7th I received a Letter from the Linguist, acquainting me that Govind Sewrams Garden was fixed for my residence, and Ramajee Chitnees ordered to conduct me to it. But the same night I received another letter from the Linguist, advising me that Govind Sewrams son, who was just come from Teur, had made some objections to my having his Garden; and as Naron Row and Sacaram Bapoo were both gone to Teur to Visit Madah Row, who was there on account his Health, the place for my abode could not be fixed untill they returned; therefore desired I would wait untill he should write me again. The next evening he wrote me the difficulty was removed, and I immediately directed him (tho' a considerable part of my baggage was yet

1. Mostyn's letters to Bombay, Madras or Calcutta are, as a rule, partly a repetition and partly a summary of the information contained in the Diary-entries immediately preceding. Hence for the sake of avoiding useless repetition, they are not annotated. When an explanation is needed, the reader should refer to the notes on the entries immediately preceding.

behind) to acquaint the Durbar I should set out the next morning, the 9th, and would wait at Guns Kind for Ramajee Chitnees, who accordingly met me and attended me to Govind Sewrams Garden; after making me a tender of his services, which I accepted, and requested his assistance in adjusting the Presents, He took his leave, promising to see me again after he had reported to Madah Row my being come into Poonah. The 13th, Ramajee Chitnees again waited on me with Madah Rows Compliments, that his Master was very anxious to see me; but being at present very weak and unable to sit up, must defer it untill he was somewhat better, when He would send for me. That in the meantime his Brother, Naron Row, would receive me at the Durbar and in every respect transact business equally as if He was present. I desired to know when Naron Row would come to Town; he said probably that Evening; if not, He would the next day go and bring him. But Madah Rows severe Illness with Ragobahs being again made Prisoner detained Naron Row with all the Ministers untill the 16th. That morning Ramajee Chitnees made me a visit with his Masters Compliments, that he was sorry I should have been so long in Poonah without having an audience; but as it was entirely owing to his Indisposition, hoped I would excuse it; however Naron Row would that afternoon come to Town and request to see me. Accordingly about 5 o'clock Naron Rao arrived and immediately sent Panderung Punt to accompany me to the Durbar, where he was waiting to receive me. The customary Salutation and compliments being over, I first presented him with the Hon'ble Companys Letter and Present, then with the Presidents Letter and Presents, as previously settled with Ramajee Chitnees, distinguishing those for Madah Row and for Him. After sitting a convenient time and requesting an Answer to the Letters as

*First  
days in  
Poonah*

soon as possible, I took my leave. The next day the Chitnees paid me a visit. I again requested an Answer to the Letters. He told me they should this afternoon consult about it, and Naron Row would in the morning acquaint me with the result. Early the next morning, the 18th, Naron Row sent his Compliments by Panderung Punt and requested I would dine with Him that Day. I accordingly went, and after dinner begged an Answer to the Companys Letter. Naron Row replied he should the next day go to his Brother at Teur, when they would consult about it. I repeated my request for a Verbal one. Ramajee Chitnees acquainted me that the Duan, Sacaram Bappoo, not being able to be present on acct. his mourning for a relation, and who Naron Row chose should give it me, desired I would wait untill the next morning, when he would go to Sacaram Bappoo, who would request my presence and give me an answer. Accordingly the next morning he<sup>1</sup> sent to desire he might have the Pleasure of seeing me. After making the usual Present, I told him I wished to know the Durbars Answer to the Hon'ble Companys Letter. He replied the Durbar with great Pleasure observed the desire the Hon'ble Company had to be upon the most friendly footing with this Government and which was what they had equally wished for; and they very readily consented to my remaining here as their Resident, which, he hoped, would be a means of fixing our Friendship upon a lasting Foundation. I told him it was with this view the Hon'ble Company had sent me hither, and he might rest assured nothing on our Parts would be wanting to accomplish this desired end. I then asked him how long it might be, before I should have the Honor of transmitting the Answer. He said it might be some days before the Letters could be ready, as it would

1. Sakharam Bapu, as is evident from the entry on October 19, 1772.

be necessary to go to Madah Row to have his Directions about it ; but I might advise my Superiors with their Determinations. I have since been with Nana Furneze, Morabah Furneze, Nilcut Row and Vissajee Punt, who confirm what Sacaram Bappoo told me.

The distance of Madah Rows Residence, which of Course occasioned the absence of the Ministers at times, together with the tedious method of their doing business, rendered it impossible for me to procure an answer sooner. But hope in a few days to transmit their Letters.

From the best information I can procure, the Moratahs will not this Year undertake any expedition, at least not untill the recovery or demise of Madah Row ; however Your Honor & ca may be assured of my best endeavours to gain the most perfect intelligence of their Proceedings and intentions, which I shall, agreeable to Your Directions, from time to time communicate to the Select Committee.

Poonah,  
21st October, 1772.

I remain very respectfully,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
Your most Obedient humble Servt.

**Saturday 24th.** Early this morning got intelligence *Janjira* that Noor Mahomet Beg, Subedar, was with about 400 Troops ordered down to Ginjirah ; immediately ordered the Linguist to enquire into the Truth of it and, if possible, the reason of his going ; also sent privately to enquire at the Topeconnah ;<sup>1</sup> all the Footmen being under the orders of Bhin Row, the Director, and learn they are gone down to Rye Gurr.<sup>2</sup> It's also reported this morning that Madah *M. Rao's* Row is very Ill, in so much that He is (according to the *illness*

1. Generally spelt Tope-Khana means cannon-house, artillery park, ordnance department.

2. "It is an opinion of some of the Mahrattas that it was by Shahjee's advice that Sivajee changed his principal residence from

Custom of the Gentoos,<sup>1</sup> who never suffer a Man to expire on a Cott) laid upon the Ground, all intercourse with Poonah stoped, and Nanna Furneze come into Town to preserve peace in case of his Death. In the afternoon intelligence is brought me that Madah Row is better, and Nanna Furneze returned to Teur.

*The* **Sunday 25th.** Ramajee Chitnees this afternoon paid  
*Poonah* me a visit and brought me the Letter in answer to the  
*reply* Hon'ble Companys to take a copy of, to transmit to the President in order to translate, as the original must be sealed up; and promised to send it me as soon as he returned to Teur, which he believed would be to Night or next day.

*Visits* **Monday 26th.** This afternoon Visited Trimbuck Row, Myput Row's Son, and Ramajee Chitnees, and made them the usual presents.

*R. Chitnis* **Tuesday 27th.** Ramajee Chitnees gone to Teur.

**Wednesday 28th.** This Morning sent a Sepoy to Ramajee Chitnees to put him in mind of the Letters.

**Thursday 29th.** This morning the sepoy returned with Ramaje's Compliments, and requested my patience for a few days, as Madah Row had ordered the addition of a Sword to the Present intended for the Hon'ble Company.

*N. Rao* **Friday 30th.** Naron Row with all the Ministers are still at Teur.

**Saturday 31st.** In the afternoon Panderung Punt brought Naron Row's Compliments and acquainted me

Rajgurh to Rairee. It is certain that he at this time changed the name of the latter to Raigurh." (Grant Duff, *History of the Marattas*, I, 159-160)

1. Gentoo is a corruption of the Portuguese gentio = a gentile or heathen, which the Portuguese applied to the Hindus in contradistinction to the Moros or Moors *i. e.* the Muhammadans.

Ramajee Chitnees would be in Town to-morrow. This month's Disbursements being closed, are as follows:

The Sundry Charges incurred on account the Poonah *Accounts* Embassy for the October 1772.<sup>1</sup>

To Wages and Provisions Viz. Provision money paid the following on the road from the 28th September to the 8th October both days inclusive is 11 days:

1 Subedar	...	11 Days at 2 qrs...	5-2,,
2 Jumledars	...	Do. ... 1.50 ...	8-1,,
2 Havaldars	...	Do. ... 1 ...	5-2,,
2 Naiques	...	Do. ... 1 ...	5-2,,
57 Sepoys incl. of Tomtoms and Watermen	...	Do. ... .75 ...	117-2-25
84 Hamals	...	Do. ... .75 ...	173-1,,
2 Chopdars	...	Do. ... .75 ...	4,,,-50
2 Massal Men	...	Do. ... .75 ...	4,,,-50
2 Summeraid Men	...	Do. ... .75 ...	4,,,-50
5 Coolies	...	Do. ... .75 ...	10-1-25
1 Gardener	...	Do. ... .75 ...	2,,,-25
3 Horsekeepers.	...	Do. ... .75 ...	6,,,-75
1 Cook	...	Do. ... .75 ...	2,,,-25
1 Baker	...	Ditto ... .75 ...	2,,,-25
2 Purvoes	...	Ditto ... 2 ...	11,,,-,,
1 Gentoo Writer	...	Ditto ... 2 ...	5-2,,
1 Persian Ditto	...	Ditto ... 2 ...	5-2,,
3 Servants	...	Ditto ... .75 ...	6,,,-75

1. The accounts are drawn up in Rupees, Quarters and Reas. "In India the rea was latterly the four-hundredth part of a rupee." (Murray, *New English Dictionary*, VIII, I, under the word reis)  
1 Rupee=4 quarters; 1 quarter=100 reas.



5 Men belonging to

Purvoes &ca 11 Days at .75 ... 10-1-25

1 Halancore ... Ditto ... .75 ... 2-1-25

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391-,-75

Ditto Ditto paid the following at  
Poonah from the 9th to the 31st Instant both  
days inclusive Viz.

1 Subedar ... 23 days ... 2 qrs... 11-2-,,

2 Jumledars ... Ditto ... 1.25 ... 14-1-50

2 Havaldars ... Ditto ... .75 ... 8-2-50

2 Naiques ... Ditto ... .75 ... 8-2-50

57 Sepoys incl.

Tomtom and

Watermen ... Ditto ... .50 ... 163-3-50

84 Hamals ... Ditto ... .50 ... 241-2-,,

2 Chopdars ... Ditto ... .50 ... 5-3-,,

2 Massalmen ... Ditto ... .50 ... 5-3-,,

2 Summeraidmen Ditto ... .50 ... 5-3-,,

5 Coolies ... Ditto ... .50 ... 14-1-50

1 Gardener ... Ditto ... .50 ... 2-3-50

3 Horsekeepers . Ditto ... .50 ... 8-2-50

1 Cook ... Ditto ... .50 ... 2-3-50

1 Baker ... Ditto ... .50 ... 2-3-50

3 Purvoes inclu-

ding Gentoo

Writer ... Ditto ... 2 ... 34-2-,,

1 Persian Writer. Ditto ... 2 ... 11-2-,,

3 Servants ... Ditto ... .50 ... 8-2-50

5 Men belonging

to Purvoes &ca Ditto ... .50 ... 14-1-50

1 Halancore ... Ditto ... .50 ... 2-3-50

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569-1-,,

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960-1-75

To Servants Wages from the 28th September to 31st October, is one month and 3 days:

2 Purvoes at Rs. 20 per month...	44	
1 Gentoo Writer at Rs. 20 Do. ...	22	
1 Persian Ditto „ 15 Do. ...	16-2-,,	
2 Durbar servants at „ 10 Do. ...	22-,,-,,	
1 Do. for Mr. Lane „ 10	11-,,-,,	
2 Chopdars at „ 10 per month	22-,,-,,	
2 Massalmen „ 6	13-,,-,,	
2 Summeraid Men „ 5	11-,,-,,	
5 Coolies „ 6	33-,,-,,	
1 Baker „ 10	11-,,-,,	
1 Cook „ 10	11-,,-,,	
1 Gardener „ 6	6-2-40	
2 Horsekeepers „ 6	13-,,-80	
1 Ditto for Present Horse at „ 8 per month	8-3-20	
5 Men belonging to Purvoes &ca.... „ 6	33-,,-,,	
84 Hamals „ 6	554-1-60	
1 Halancore „	5-2-,,	
	<hr/>	
	838-,,-80	

Deduct what advanced to the following :

At Bombay,

2 Chopdars ...	20-,,-,,
2 Massalmen	12-,,-,,
2 Summeraidmen	10-,,-,,
5 Coolies ...	30-,,-,,
1 Cook ...	10-,,-,,
1 Baker ...	10-,,-,,
84 Hamals ...	504-,,-,,
1 Horsekeeper	8-,,-,,
1 Ditto	6-,,-,,
1 Halancore	5-,,-,,

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615-,,-,,

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223-,,-80    223-,,-80

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1183-2-55

To Sundries at Bombay on the road and at Poonah Viz.  
Paid the Military Storekeeper Bill, for things for the  
use of Residency Viz.

36	Tin Plates for Covers for Dishes	... 7-,,,-80
25	Pound of Pow- der	...14-,,,-41
1	Quarter Barrel for Dishes	... ,,-1-25
30	Musquet Grape.	9-,,,-,,
24	Aget Flints	... 3-,,,-36
6	Wooden Hammers for Musquets	... ,,-1-80
1	Kwiting Hammer	,,,-,-50
1	Screw Key	... ,,-2-,,
2	Pickers and Brushes	... ,,-,,,-74
472	Lead	} at 45 Reas 4-3-49
	Balls 26	
300	Ditto 12 $\frac{3}{4}$	
———— 39-1-35		

Paid the General Store-  
keeper as follows :—

1	Bench Vice.	...	5--,-,,
1	Hand Vice	...	1-2--,,
1	Pound Brass		
	wire Nails...	2-2--,,	
$\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto Tin Nails	...	--,-2-50

———— 9-2-50

Paid making 12 Tin Covers

	Dishes	...	...15--,-,,
	Ditto Brass rings for Dishes.	2-3--,,	

———— 66-2-85

Ditto paid Taylor for covering large chair and making sundries ...	22-,-50
Paid for two Pieces of Dungaree .	6-,-,,
Ditto Coyer Rope at Panwell ...	8-,-,,

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102-3-35

Paid at Panwell for Bamboos for Pachayet ...	5
Paid Hire of 29 Bullocks for Bag- gage &ca. at 4 Rs. ...	116-,-,,
Ditto Ditto of Horses for Purvoes Officers & Servants ...	45-,-,,
Ditto Country Sepoys for carrying two Europeans to Panwell from Colapoor ...	2-,-,,
Advanced two European Deserters returned to Bombay ...	1-,-,,
4 Sheep given to the Sepoys Hamals &ca. ...	7-,-,,
Provisions to the Country Big- garies... ...	44-,-75
Ditto for a sepoy's provision sent to Teur ...	2-,-,,
Ditto Ditto sent with Letters to Bombay ...	4-,-,,
Liquor given to Hamals Coolies &ca. on the Road... ...	12-,-,,
Gave Enams to the Durbar Chop- dars and Servants of the Minis- ters on my arrival... ...	34-2-,,

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374-,-10

374-,-10

## To Garrison Charges—

To Mending of Tomtom	...	4-,-,,
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## To Stable Charges—

Hay for Horses	...	5-2-15
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Gram Ditto	...	3-1-80
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Shoes Ditto	...	,-2-,,
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Hire of a Horse for the		
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Linguist	...	15-,-,,
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24-1-95

## To Table Expenses with Glass and China

Ware Broke on Road	...	200-,-,,
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Rupees	...	<u>1786-,-60</u>
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POONAH, 31st October, 1772.

## November.

*Poona* **Sunday 1st.** This morning Ramajee Chitnees came to  
*reply* Town; sent the Linguist to him for the Answer to the  
 Hon'ble Companys Letter. He returned for answer, the  
 Letter was ready, and if I would send a man to him when  
 he returned to Teur, which would be the next day, He  
 would send it.

**Tuesday 3rd.** Early this morning sent a Sepoy to  
 Ramajee Chitnees for the Letter; in the evening he returned  
 with it; but Ramajee requested it might not be sent away,  
 as the Present intended for the Hon'ble Company was not  
 quite Ready; but hoped it would be in a few days. As I  
 am now at a certainty with respect to their Consenting to  
 my remaining here, Determined to send away such of the  
 Hamals<sup>1</sup> and People as were not absolutely necessary for  
 keeping up a proper respect at this Court.

1. From the Arabic *hammal*, meaning a porter. (Hobson-  
 Jobson) A porter, a palanquin-bearer; also in Bombay a subor-  
 dinate house-servant, a bearer. (Whitworth)

**Wednesday 4th.** Agreeable to my address of the *Letter to*  
 21st Ultimo to the Board, Wrote the Select Committee such *Bombay*  
 particulars as I judged necessary they should be acquainted  
 with ; Also the Governor and Council, inclosing list of such  
 Copper ware as is delivered to the Hamals and People now  
 returning to Bombay.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca MEMBERS of the  
 Select Committee on  
 BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Since my Address to the Board nothing very material *M. Rao's*  
 has happened, Madah Rows continued illness detaining all *illness*  
 the Ministers at Teur. I have in the meantime used my  
 Endeavours to learn their real intentions, and from the  
 best information find they are at present determined to  
 undertake nothing this Year, except sending a small force  
 to surround Rye Gur. What alterations Madah Rows death  
 or recovery may make is uncertain, but upon either I  
 imagine the Durbar will open about the Sciddee. The  
 last time I had any Conversation with Ramajee Chitnees, *Conversa-*  
 He endeavoured to sound me to know if I had any *tion with*  
 particular business to Treat on. I told him the Hon'ble *R. Chitnis*  
 Companys Letter explained the nature of my Embassy ;  
 but should anything Occur hereafter for our mutual  
 benefit, it might then be necessary to come to particulars ;  
 that I had a few memorandums<sup>1</sup> regarding Orders which  
 had been issued and not obeyed, the which I would, as  
 soon as possible they were at leasure, lay before them.  
 He then asked my Opinion with regard to the Conduct  
 of Sciddee Rahim, on which Subject he has turned the

1. The transactions are orders issued by the Poona Court to  
 make good various losses for which the Marathas were responsible.  
 See Appendix No. 14.

Conversation upon every Visit he has paid me, with a View to find out what part we should act, in case they should break with Him ; and I have as often assured him we should undoubtedly preserve Ginjirah to the Sciddee.<sup>1</sup> My giving them the least intimation of our intentions at present would Afford them an opportunity of entering into a Private Treaty with him, who I imagine would Jump at any Overtures, had he any Idea of our giving Him up ; as I am convinced they have much at Heart the Possession of that Place, I would wish them to open first, or at least be deferred untill Madah Rows recovery, who is now much better ; and untill when, nothing determinate can be done. Sciddee Rahims Man, who had been here these two Months, was, I hear, dispatched Yesterday, and Orders given for the release of his Son, whom Vissajee Punt took Prisoner at Mudgur.

*Ragobah's plot* Just before my Arrival, Ragobah, who was some distance from Poonah, was carried Prisoner to Teur ; some say, being disgusted with his Nephews, He wanted to take the Protection of the Nizam ; others that he was forming a design to seize the Government ; nineteen of his followers are sent into different Forts and himself, tho' not closely confined, is very narrowly watched and surrounded with Madah Rows People.

In the hopes my Conduct may meet your Approval, I remain very Respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

POONAH, 4th Novr. 1772.

1. *Diary*, October 17, 1772, note.

To  
 THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.  
 President and Governor &ca. COUNCIL on  
 BOMBAY.

*Letter to  
Bombay*

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

My last Respects waited on your Honour &ca the *Poona*  
 21st Ultimo, and this serves to advise You of my having *reply*  
 last Night received the Answers to the Hon'ble Companys  
 and Presidents Letters, which would now be forwarded,  
 but for the Present intended for the Hon'ble Company not  
 being ready, which as soon as delivered shall be together  
 transmitted. Enclosed is a List of Copper ware returned  
 with 74 Hamals, one Horsekeeper and a Sick Coolie, who  
 have all received Pay and Provisions to the 7th Inst.

I remain Very Respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your most Obedt. Humble Servant.

POONAH, 4th Novemr. 1772.

**Saturday 7th.** At noon Ramajee Chitnees came to *New*  
 Town and sent for the Linguist, acquainting him that, as it *quarters*  
 was determined I should remain here, and it being inconve-  
 nient to Govind Sewram Family my continuing any length  
 of time in their Garden, The Durbar had come to a Resolu-  
 tion of Ordering Rajah Doorjunsings House for my fixed  
 abode, and accordingly delivered the Linguist an Order of  
 Naron Rows to Trimbuck Row Mama to get the House  
 prepared for my Reception.

**Monday 9th.** Ramajee Chitnees, purposing going soon *R.Chitnis'*  
 with his Family on a Pilgrimage to Vanares,<sup>1</sup> several *request*  
 times desired I would procure for him from the Gover-  
 nor recommendatory Letters to the Chiefs or Commanding  
 Officers, at Prague,<sup>2</sup> Vanares and Patnah, requesting their

1. Benares.

2. Prayag or Allahabad.



Protection and Civil treatment. As he is a man of Consequence here, is, I believe, a real well wisher to the English, and has, and is ready to Assist me on all Occasions, Besides considering who and what he is, His asking such a Favour is in my Opinion Establishing (by acknowledging) our Government. I told Him I would write the Governor, and accordingly addressed him this Day.

*A visit* **Wednesday 11th.** Mahomed Ally Caun Hachim<sup>1</sup> paid me a visit.

*An arrival* **Thursday 12th.** Mahomed Ally Caun's<sup>2</sup> Vackeel, Dada Row Nagow Row, arrived in Town.

*Letter from Bombay* **Sunday 15th.** Received the following Letter from Mr. Secretary Skipp.  
To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at Poonah.

SIR,

Your Letters addressed to the Hon'ble the President and Council, dated the 21st Ultimo and the 4th Instant, have been duly received; but requiring no reply, they have directed me to return your Sepoys and a Seal of the Hon'ble Companys for your use, which I therefore now enclose.

BOMBAY, 11th Novemr. 1772.

I am, Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

GEORGE SKIPP

Secry.

*Gifts from the Dutch* **Monday 16th.** This morning I am informed one Mahomed Arruff, Vackeel from the Duch at Surat, is arrived and brought presents to Madah Row, which consist of a Horse, Gold Box, Dress, Velvets, 2 little

1. The gentleman residing at Poona; see Appendix No. 10.
2. The Nawab of the Carnatic; see Appendix No. 10.

Dogs and oil of different sorts of Spices. This Evening Ragobah went to Teur to visit his Nephew, who is extremely Ill.

**Wednesday 18th.** This morning two Europeans, *Deserters* named John Smith and James MacGra, who with one James Welldone deserted from the Hector, Capt. Williams, at Goa, came to me, requesting they might go to Bombay; they had been twenty two days from Goa, could nowhere get service, and were in short almost famished; which, I believe, induced them to come to me. This afternoon about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 1 o'clock Intelligence was brought me that *M. Rao's* Madah Row Died this morning about 11 o'clock. Imme- *death* diately Dispatched the following Address to my Superiors to acquaint them of it.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca COUNCIL on

Bombay.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

On the 15th I was favoured with Mr. Secretary Skipps *Letter to* Letter of the 11th, acknowledging receipt of mine to the *Bombay* Board of the 21st October and 4th Instant, and enclosing a Seal of the Hon'ble Companys.

This is purposely to advise your Honor &ca I have this minute received Intelligence that Madah Row Died this morning about 11 o'clock<sup>1</sup>; and as it is usual to present the Successor with a Sirpaw, at the end of his Mourning, I request Your Directions whether the same shall be observed on the present Occasion.

POONAH, 18th Novemr, 1772.

I am very Respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most Obedient Servant.

1. *Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XVIII, 254 and Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 682.

*Letter to* Also this Evening wrote Naron Row a Letter of Con-  
*N. Rao* dolence, & complimenting him on his Accession to the  
 Government.

*News* **Tuesday 24th.** This morning Mahomed Ally Cauns<sup>1</sup>  
*from* Vackeel, who arrived the 12th instant, made me a Visit ;  
*Carnatic* after the usual Compliments I asked him the News of the  
 Carnatick and the occasion of his coming. He told me  
 everything in the Carnatick was quiet, and that He had  
 brought a Sirpaw for Madah Row, and would acquaint me  
 with the business he was sent upon at another opportunity.

*Deserters* This afternoon two Europeans, by name Edward Price  
 and Mathew Hayden, were brought me, who deserted from  
 his Majestys Ship, Intripid, at Bombay, they swam across at  
 Mahim.

**Wednesday 25th.** This morning the four Sepoys I  
 sent away with the two Europeans the 20th, returned  
 having let the Europeans escape ; immediately sent to  
 Trimbuck Row Mama, to request he would Issue Orders  
 for their being seized and brought to me ; but he unluckily  
 went to Teur this morning. Bhim Row is also at Teur,  
 therefore wrote to Ramajee Chitnees to desire he would  
 get the above Order Issued. As soon as I get Intelli-  
 gence of the above two Europeans, purpose sending them  
 with the two belonging to His Majesty under a strong  
 Guard with an Officer, as Sepoys alone, I find, are not to be  
 trusted.

**Friday 27th.** This morning four Germans, by Name  
 Michael Fritz, John Gassens, Andrew Paul and George  
 Daniel Lyntz, deserted from Bombay, were brought  
 me. Determined to send them away to-morrow morning,  
 without waiting for the two that escaped, under a Guard  
 of a Jumledar,<sup>2</sup> Havaldar and 13 Sepoys. About 1  
*Capture of* o'clock received private Letter from Surat, advising me  
*Broach*

1. The Nawab of the Carnatic.

2. Every 10 men had an officer called a *Naik*; and every 50,

that on the 18th Instant Our Troops stormed and took Broach<sup>1</sup>; immediately wrote Ramajee Chitnees, it being improper to address Naron Row during His Mourning, to acquaint the Durbar with the Intelligence. This afternoon returned Dadah Row, Mahomed Ally Cauns Vakeels Visit. This Evening Micheal Fritz, one of the Deserters brought in the morning, notwithstanding the utmost care, found means in the Dark to get over the Compound Wall, advised the Cutwall<sup>2</sup> and requested His Orders to the Chokeys<sup>3</sup> to stop and bring him to me, the which He immediately Issued.

**Saturday 28th.** Sent to the Cutwall to know if the European had been seized, but was acquainted he could get no Intelligence. However make no Doubt securing him in a few days; sent away the remaining 5 Europeans, with the Guard as mentioned yesterday, and wrote my Superiors as follows:

TO

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca COUNCIL on

BOMBAY.

*Letter to  
Bombay*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

On the 18th Instant two seamen, named John Smith, and James MacGra, came here. They deserted in Company with a havildar. The officer over 100 was termed Joomladar. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 190) Hobson-Jobson and Whitworth do not give the word *jumladar*, but they mention *jemadar*, *jemaoutdar*, *jama-dar*," Mr. G. S. Sardesai forwarded the following information, "Jamat-dar or jamadar is the head of a fighting band or company, from *jamat*, a collection; while *jumla* means a company of 125 or 150 soldiers; hence *jumladar* is the head of a company of 125 or 150. Jumladar and jamadar mean nearly the same thing."

1. Appendix No. 15.

2. Cotwal or cutwal—the head of the police, (Hobson-Jobson) a chief-officer of police in a city or town, also a village watchman. (Whitworth)

3. Police stations.

James Welldone from the Hector, Captain Williams, at Goa; the latter left them the first night, and which way he went they know not; on the 20th I sent them away under a Guard of four Sepoys, but on the 25th the Sepoys returned and acquainted me the Europeans had escaped. The Durbar Orders with two Sepoys and two of the Government People are sent after them, and am in hopes they will be brought back again. The same day two more seamen, Edward Price and Mathew Heyden, deserters from His Majestys Ship, Intripid, were brought me, and Yesterday four Germans, three Soldiers and one Artillery man, named John Gassens, Andrew Paul, George Daniel Lyntz and Michael Fritz; the latter, notwithstanding the utmost care, escaped last night, but doubt not of getting him again; the remaining five I now send under a Guard of a Jumledar, Havaldar, and thirteen Sepoys, and hope they will be safely conducted to Bombay. They are delivered upon the terms of the Treaty in 1761.

*Broach* By a Private Letter, received Yesterday from Surat, I was advised of the Conquest of Broach; on which occasion I beg leave to Congratulate Your Honors &ca.  
POONAH, 28th November, 1772.

I remain very Respectfully,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servant.

*Maratha claims on Broach* **Sunday 29th.** This morning Ramajee Chitnees and Vissajee Punt paid me a Visit by Sacaram Bappoo's Order; the Purport was to mention the Conquest of Broach, that, tho' the Country appertained to them, they did not object to our taking it, as the Nabob had used us ill; but expected we would not molest the Country that belonged to them. I assured them we meant not to Injure them, but would certainly take possession of such part as belonged to it. In the evening Dada Rao and Crust Row

Nagojee made me a visit. I enquired of them the reason of the formers coming and if he had any Business of the Hon'ble Companys to transact with the Durbar; they told me not, and was only come on the part of the Nabob, Mahomed Ally Caun, with presents to the Durbar, consisting of a Pallankeen, Elephants, Horses and Sirpaw with a set of Jewells and some Europe Curiosities and a Sum of Money in part payment of the Carnatick Tribute.

**Monday 30th.** This morning the Jassoods<sup>1</sup> and Sepoys, *Deserters* who went in search of the two Seamen who had escaped from our Sepoys in the Road to Bombay, returned without being able to find them; they were however lucky enough to meet with the Gunner, Michael Fritz, who got out of our Compound, and delivered him in charge of the Jumle-dar and Sepoys who were carrying the Europeans sent away the 28th.

The Disbursements for this month are as follows : *Accounts*

Account Disbursements for the Poonah Residency for the Month November 1772.

**30th.** The Factory Charges &ca Viz.

Diet to the Resident for last Month...	50-,-,,	
Ditto to Mr. Lane ...	30-,-,,	
House Rent ...	80-,-,,	
Ditto to Mr. Lane ...	20-,-,,	
Allowance to Ditto as reader of Divine Service...	12-,-,,	
	<hr/>	192-,-,,
1 Purvoo ...	20-,-,,	
1 Gentoo Writer ...	20-,-,,	
1 Persian Ditto ...	15-,-,,	
2 Durbar Servants at Rs. 10 each...	20-,-,,	
1 Ditto for Mr. Lane ...	10-,-,,	
	<hr/>	85-,-,,

1. Jasoos = spy. (Hobson-Jobson) Jasuds = messenger, courier, runner. (Gupte)

2 Chopdars...	...	10	...	20
2 Massalmen	...	6	...	12
2 Summeraid Men	...	5	...	10
1 Baker	...		...	10
1 Cook	...		...	10
4 Coolies	...	6	...	24
10 Hamals	...	6	...	60
1 Gardener	...		...	6
2 Horse Keepers	...	6	...	12
1 Halancore	...		...	5

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 254-,,

Deduct what advanced to the Baker

 at Bombay ... 10-,,
 

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244-,,

Candles for the use of the Office for the

Months of October and November 8-,,

Beatle Nut and Rose Water ... 5-,,

Coconut Oil for the Lamps for Octr. &amp;

Novr. 16-,,

Jinjalee Ditto for Massals Do. Do. ... 10-,,

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 39-,,

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 475-,,

To Wages and Provisions &amp;ca Viz.

74 Hamals wages from the 1st to 7th

Inst. @ 6...103-2-40

1 Horse Keeper Do. Do. 8... 1-3-46

1 Coolie Do. Do. 6... 1-1-80

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 106-3-66

Provision Money to Sepoys, Coolies &ca  
from 1st to the 30th Inst.

1 Subedar ...	... @ 2 qrs.	15-,-,,	
2 Jumledars	... @ 1.25	18-3-,,	
2 Havalgars	... @ .75	11-1-,,	
2 Naiques ...	... @ Do.	11-1-,,	
53 Sepoys including Tom-			
toms &ca	... @ .50	198-3-,,	
1 Purvooe ...	... @ 2 qr.	15-,-,,	
1 Persian ...	... @	... 15-,-,,	
3 Servants	... @ .50	... 11-1-,,	
2 Chopdars	... Do. Do.	7-2-,,	
2 Massalmen	... Do. Do.	... 7-2-,,	
2 Summeraidmen	... Do. Do.	... 7-2-,,	
4 Coolies	... Do. Do.	... 15-2-,,	
10 Hamals ...	... Do. Do.	... 37-2-,,	
1 Gardener	... Do. Do.	... 3-3-,,	
1 Cook ...	... Do. Do.	... 3-3-,,	
1 Baker ...	... Do. Do.	... 3-3-,,	
2 Horse Keepers	... Do. Do.	... 7-2-,,	
4 Men belonging to Purvoes &ca	... Do. Do.	... 15-,-,,	
1 Halancore	... Do. Do.	... 3-3-,,	
		<hr/>	408-3-,,

Ditto paid the following returned to Bom-  
bay from the 1st to the 7th Instant Viz.

74 Hamals 3 days at Poona & 4 on the			
road ...	... @ .50	83-1-,,	
1 Horsekeeper	... @ 1-,-50	1-,-50	
1 Coolie ...	... @ 1-,-50	1-,-50	
		<hr/>	85-2-,,
			194-1-,,
		<hr/>	601-,-60
		<hr/>	1076-,-66



## Charges Extraordinary Viz.

Paid sundry Sepoys sent with		
Letters to Bombay	... ..	5-,,,
Ditto sent to Teur	... ..	2-2-,,
Given Enams to Pattamars arrived		
in six days from Surat	... ..	10-,,,
Given Charity to Poor	... ..	1-2-,,
Provision supplied to the Surat		
Pattamar	... ..	,,2-,,
Given Enams to four Mucardums		
of Hamals on returning to Bom-		
bay	... ..	4-,,,
Ditto to servants belonging to		
Mahomet Ally Caun Vackeel		
when he came to Visit me	... ..	4-,,,
Provision supplied to 4 European		
Deserters	... ..	6-,,,
Advanced Do. for their Expences		
on their road to Bombay	... ..	5-,,,
	_____	38-2-,,

## Stable Charges—

Hay	... ..	4-,,,
Hire of a Horse for the use of the		
Linguist	... ..	15-,,,
	_____	19-,,,

## Garrison Charges—

2 Leather Puccals for water	... ..	2-1-,,
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Rupees ...1135-3-60

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Poonah 30th November, 1772.

## December.

**Tuesday 1st.** Early this morning Naron Row with all *Investiture* his Ministers came from Teur; Ragobah is not come into Town, but Encamped near it. They purpose, I hear, setting out for Setterah the 3d in the evening to receive from the Rajah the usual Sirpaw with a Cuttaree and Sicca<sup>1</sup> in Naron Rows name; which empowers Him to Act as Peshwah or Prime Minister, and Govern this Country. Though the Rajah is a prisoner, they still Judge that Ceremony necessary and pretend to Govern by his Authority.

**Wednesday 2nd.** Received my Superiors Commands *Political outlook* of the 27th Ultimo, as entered hereafter. As soon as I can with any degree of certainty, will advise them what Alterations Madah Rows Death may make in the Political System of Affairs here. At present there is the appearance of a Difference between the Uncle and Nephew, and a very few days will discover whether things are likely to be accommodated or not. It is reported in *Rumours of war* Town as a truth the Nizams Troops, under the Command of Ibraim Caun Downsaw, have taken the Field, and Joined by some of Moodajee Bouncello's People. But whether invited by Ragobah, or only to obseise the motions of this Government to take the first Opportunity of creating a Disturbance, is uncertain. It is also said Heyder Ally Joined with the Portuguese are preparing to Attack Geriah, but this is only Bazar news.

1. Grant Duff, *History of the Malwattas*, I, 696. Perhaps the Sicca ceremony can be traced to a custom formerly prevalent in the Moghul Empire. "After the Emperor's death the value of it (the rupee) abates, may be a pice or two in a Roupie, because of its Antiquity, whereby they say so much of its Worth is wore off; and only the new coin passes current without any Diminution." (Ovington, *A Voyage to Surat*, p. 132) Hence the presentation of the Sicca became a part of the investiture of administrative power.

*Letter To*  
*from* THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.  
*Bombay* Resident at  
 POONAH.

Sir,

*Broach* Having Judged it highly requisite to Chastize the Nabob of Broach for the Gross Insult he has offered the Hon'ble Company and for the Base Violation of every Article of the Treaty he entered into on the 30th November last,<sup>1</sup> We sent a suitable Force against that Place, which has met with all the success we expected, as the Town of Broach was taken by Storm on the 18th Instant [*November 18, 1772*] and is now in possession of our Forces, of which event we deem it necessary you should be acquainted with.

*Succession* We have received Your Letter of the 18th Instant,  
*at Poona* advising of the Death of Madah Row. We permit You to make his Successor the Present usual on such Occasions, and Direct that you acquaint us whether this event is likely to make to any material Alterations in the Political System of the Morattahs.

BOMBAY, 27th November, 1772.

We are Your loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

”

DANIEL DRAPER

”

BENJAMIN JERVIS

WILLIAM SHAW

NATHANIEL STACKHOUSE

ROBERT GARDEN

*Durbar's* **Wednesday 2nd.** Also this morning the Durbar sent  
*presents* me the Present intended for the Hon'ble Company, consisting of a Sword, Cuttaree and a Matchlock with Pouches and Powderhorn; but cannot help remarking they are

1. The treaty of November 30, 1771. See Appendix No. 15.

an Emblem of the mean Avaritious Disposition of these Brahmins.<sup>1</sup>

**Thursday 3rd.** I am this morning informed Naron Row intended removing Vissaji Punt from the Government of Basseen and Seer Surdar of the Conkon, and that one Trimback Ve Nique,<sup>2</sup> at present Governor of Calian [Kalyan] would be appointed. But this has not yet taken Effect, tho' confidently said, will, before He goes to Setterah. This Evening at 7 o'clock Naron Row went to his Tent pitched just without the Town, it being a lucky hour, but will not set out for Setterah untill the 5th. I cannot for certain yet learn whether Ragobah accompanys his Nephew or not ; should he not, it will certainly widen the Breach between them, and probably, unless made prisoner, create a Civil commotion in the Government. But a Couple of days will clear it up, untill when, I judge it prudent to wait before I reply to my Superiors Commands received the 2d, and at the same time transmit the Letters in answer to the Hon'ble Companys and Governors with the Present.

**Friday 4th.** It is yet a Doubt whether Ragobah goes to Setterah ; indeed by what I can learn, his Resolutions are so very wavering that there can be no certainty of it untill he sets out.

**Saturday 5th.** The 3d. in the evening Naron Row, after going to his Tent, pitched just without the Town, went privately to Ragobahs Tent at Sangome<sup>3</sup> about 2 Miles distant, where he has been ever since Naron Row

1. Mostyn's presents to the Marathas were not emblems of princely munificence. See *Diary*, 23-1-1773 ; 22-5-1773 ; 11, 12, 1773.

2. The Mamlatdar Trimbak Vinayak made in 1771-1772 the land assessment in Kalyan. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XIII, II, 558.)

3. Sangam or junction of the Mula and Mutha rivers. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XX, 184)

came from Teur, to make up the difference<sup>1</sup> which has for some time subsisted between them, owing partly to his late Behavior just before Madah Rows Death, but principally to his insisting on his Adopted Son, Amrut Row,<sup>2</sup> being made a Minister, which Naron Row Objected to, alledging his adopting a Stranger, when he had a Nephew alive, was contrary to their Custom ; what passed privately between them is not certainly known. But it seems matters are compromised, and Naron Row is to receive the Sirpaw of Peshwah, and Ragobah that of Naib<sup>3</sup> ; That the Government be conducted in the same manner as was done by Nannah and Sudubah<sup>4</sup> ; that all Business be carried on by Ragobah, but subject to the Controul of Naron Row ; Amrut Row to have the Command of two Forts near Nassick and two Thousand Horse with a revenue of twelve Lacks a year.

*Satara* They all set out this morning, the latter for Nassick, and the two former for Setterah ; the 11th is fixed for their receiving the Sirpaws, and are expected to return in about

*Changes* 12 Days. Naron Row, before he went away, invested Trimback Ve Nique with the Sirpaw and Sicca as Governor of Basseen and Seer Surdar of the Conkon in the room of Vissajee Punt ; Also one Ramchunder Punt Subedar of Gorumcoondah,<sup>5</sup> a Fort bordering on the Carnatick ; and Ballajee Gunis Subedar of Rutnah Gheriah.<sup>6</sup>

*Attack on Gheria* **Sunday 6th.** This morning Ramajee Chitnees, by Naron Rows Order, paid me a Visit with his Masters

1. Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 696.

2. It was about this period (1768) Rugonath Rao adopted Amrut Rao. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 658) In 1775 a son was born to him, Bajee Rao Rugonath, (*Ibid.* II, 9) who became Peshwa in 1795, and is known as Baji Rao II.

3. Naib, nayab or niab : deputy governor. (Hobson-Jobson)

4. Appendix No. 16.

5. Gurramkonda, Appendix No. 30.

6. Ratnagiri, Appendix No. 17.

Compliments and to acquaint me He was gone to Setterah, but would return in about 12 Days when he hoped to see me. I asked Ramajee if the Durbar had any news regarding Heyder Ally and the Portuguese having joined. He told me there was news in the Town that the Portuguese were preparing their Fleet, and it was said to be joined with Heyder Allys Forces, under the Command of Angria's Sons, with an Intent to Attack Gariah<sup>1</sup>; but if such was their Intentions, He imagined the Enterprise would at least be for the Present Suspended on Acct. of a new Governor Caitan De Chambers Arrival.<sup>2</sup> He also confirmed what I had heard of the accommodation between Naron Row and Ragobah. Determined to advise my Superiors, agreeable to their Commands received the 2d, of the Situation of Affairs to this time, and accordingly addressed them the following Letter.

To

THE HON<sup>BLE</sup> WILLIAM HORNBY, Esqr.

President and Governor &ca. COUNCIL on

BOMBAY.

*Letter to  
Bombay*

HON<sup>BLE</sup> SIR & SIRS,

My last Address waited on you the 28th Ultimo, *A Com-*  
and on the 2nd Instant your Commands of the 27th reach- *promise*  
ed me.

It was for some time imagined the Death of Madah Row would have given rise to some contest in the Government, from the different parties in the Ministry that, was said, then prevailed; and that Ragobah would endeavour to get the Sovereign Power. Various were the Reports that prevailed; but it's certain there was a disagreement between the Uncle and the Nephew; and it was doubtful whether Ragobah would accompany Naron Row to

1. Gheria or Viziadrug, Appendix No. 17.

2. Appendix No. 18.

Setterah to receive the usual Sirpaw from the Hands of the Rajah, with the Sicca, Cuttaree untill yesterday morning, when matters were compromised in the following manner : Naron Row to receive the Sirpaw of Peshwah, Ragobah that of Naib, the Government to be Conducted in the same manner as was done by Nanna and Sudabah, that is, all Business to be carried on by Ragobah, but subject to the Controul of Naron Row. Ragobahs Adopted Son, Amrut Row, who has been in some measure the cause of the present dispute, owing to his Father persisting in having him made a Minister, and which the Nephew Objected to, alledging it to be inconsistent with their Custom, for that He should have been adopted, Has the Command of two Forts near Nassick and two thousand Horse with a Revenue of Twelve Lacks of Rupees a Year. He yesterday set out for Nassick, as did Naron Row and Ragobah for Setterah ; the 11th is fixed for their receiving the Sirpaw, and they are expected to return in about 12 days. Thus matters are settled for the Present ; when they return, I shall be better able to Judge how Affairs are likely to go, and shall not fail to Advise your Honor &ca of any material alterations that may be made.

*Nawab's* The 12th Ultimo arrived Dada Row Nagojee (his  
*gifts* Brother Crust Row is Resident Vackeel), sent by Mahomed Ally Caun<sup>1</sup> with large Presents to the Durbar here and two Lack thirty thousand Rupees in part Payment of the Carnatic Tribute. I believe his principal business is to get this remitted ; he had his first Audience two days ago, and I have reason to think he will succeed.

*Gifts from* A Dutch Vackeel, Mahomet Aruff from Surat, is also  
*the Dutch* Arrived with a Present of a Horse, Velvets, Europe Curiosities and Oil of Spices. It seems this is sent every Year, and with no other View that I can learn, but in hopes of

1. The Nawab of the Carnatic.

procuring a Factory on the Sea Coast to the Northward of Basseen.

It is confidently Reported in Town the Nizams Troops, *Rumours* under the Command of Ibrahim Caun Downsaw, have taken *of war* the Field, and are Joined by some of Moodajee Bouncellos People, but their Intentions are not known. It is also said, and the Durbar have this Intelligence, that the Portuguese, joined with Heyder Ally and accompanied by Toolajee Angriahs Sons, are preparing to Attack Gheriah ; but the arrival of a New Governor, Caitan De Chambre, will in all Probability put a stop to it, at least for the Present. They want their Frigate again, and most likely, if they sent an Embassador, She would be returned.<sup>1</sup>

A few days ago I was visited by Ramajee Chitnees *Broach* and Vissajee Punt by Sacaram Bappoos Order. The purport was regarding the Conquest of Broach, that tho' the Country appertained to them, yet as the Nabob had Violated his Agreement with Us, They had no objection to Our Chastizing him, but expected we will not molest the Country that belonged to them. I assured them it was not our intentions, but we should certainly take possession of such part as was the Property of that Place.

The Evening before Naron Row went away for Sette- *Satara* rah, He dismissed Vissajee Punt from his Command of Governor of Basseen and Seer Surdar of the Conkon, but met with great opposition from the Duan, who is Vissajees Steady support. However Naron Row, as Steady in his Resolutions, before he set out Yesterday morning, Invested one Trimback Ve Nique with the Sirpaw and the Sicca.

I had this morning a Visit from Ramajee Chitnees, by Naron Rows Order, with His Compliments, and to

1. In a parallel passage (*Diary*, December 27, 1772) Mostyn speaks of the Portuguese fleet cruising off the Maratha coast in hopes of obtaining satisfaction for their frigate.



acquaint me, he was gone to Setterah, but should return in about twelve Days when he hoped to see me.

*Poona* Accompanying, you will please to receive the Letters  
*reply and* in Answer to the Hon'ble Companys and Presidents, with a  
*present* Copy of the former, the Original being sealed up ; Also the  
Present intended for the Hon'ble Company, consisting of a  
Matchlock, Sword and Cuttaree.  
POONAH, 6th Decem. 1772.

I am very Respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs.

Your most Obedient Humble Servant.

*Letter* **Monday 7th.** This morning Dispatched the forgoing  
*and pre-* Letter, and transmitted the Durbar Letters in Answer to  
*sents* the Hon'ble Company and Governor, also their Present for  
the Hon'ble Company.

*Trimbak* **Tuesday 8th.** Judging it may be of use to the Com-  
*Vinayak* panys Affairs to gain some acquaintance with Trimback  
Ve Nique, this Afternoon paid him a Visit and gave the  
Usual Present.

**Wednesday 9th.** This Morning Trimback Ve Nique  
returned my Visit and immediately set out for Setterah to  
meet Naron Row. Nothing passed at the above Visit, but  
professions of Friendship, and that it was his utmost wish  
to be upon such Terms with the English, as might be  
noticed and redound to his Credit at this Durbar.

*Political* **Mahomet Ally Caun<sup>1</sup>** also paid me Visit, and after  
*situation* some General Conversation I asked him what he thought of  
the Situation of Affairs and of the late reconciliation between  
Naron Row and His Uncle. As to the Uncle, he believed  
it might be intended as sincere, but did not imagine it  
would be of any long Continuance. Their Affairs wore at  
present but an indifferent Aspect. The Difference between

1. The gentleman residing at Poona, probably the same as  
Mahomed Ali Khan Hakim mentioned in the *Diary* on November 11,  
1772.

the Commanding Officers of their Forces in Indostan would, he apprehended, Give Naron Row much trouble. They were ordered to Poonah, but whether they would obey was a doubt, when they heard of Madah Rows Death. It's said Madjee Scindy is joined with the Mogul, in opposition to Vissajee Punt Benewallah and Toocajee Holkar joined with Rohillah. The two latter wrote the King to appoint Rohillah his Duan,<sup>1</sup> which he absolutely refused. The Consequence of this disagreement is at present uncertain, but a short time will explain it. He then asked me about Broach, and whether we intended disposing it or keeping it in our own Hands. I told him it was not in my Power to say what my Superiors might do with it. His Reason for asking, he said, was, probably Naron Row on His return might mention something about that Place. In the Afternoon Crust Row<sup>2</sup> came to see me ; as he is most Conversant in the Affairs towards the Carnatick and the Powers thereabouts, I asked him what news with respect to the Nizam, Heyder Ally, and the Bouncello. The former, he said, had some time ago taken the Field ; but on hearing of Madah Rows Death, they returned into Hyderabad, and the Court went into mourning ; this was only a Compliment to the Morattahs, and that they would soon take the field again, but that nothing very material was to be apprehended from him. Heyder, he hears, has taken the Field, but this is only Report. With respect to Moodajee and Sabajee

Nawab's  
vakil

1. From a letter, written by Mostyn, (*Diary*, December 27, 1772) it is plain that the Rohilla here alluded to is Zabita Khan, the son of Najib-ud-daula, a Pathan, who rose to power about the year 1754. At first he acquired territory in the Doab, but in 1755 he founded Najibabad in Bijnor, and thus held the northern part of Rohilkhand independently of other Rohillas. When he died, he was succeeded by Zabita Khan. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XXI, 307)

2. The vakil of Mahomed Ali Khan, the Nawab of the Carnatic.

Bouncellos, their Dispute for the Government<sup>1</sup> was not yet settled, and he hears Naron Row has ordered them to attend him, when he would hear their Pretentions and settle matters between them.

*Naval activity* **Thursday 10th.** At Noon I had certain Intelligence that this Durbar last night received advice from Vissad-roog.<sup>2</sup> Their Fleet, ordered some time ago to be got in readiness, had sailed some to the Northward, and seven Grabs<sup>3</sup> to the Southward. The latter, arriving off Goa, saw twenty one Vessels, large and small, laying at the Bar. The Morattahs were engaged and run out to Sea ; the Portuguese have since stationed 5 vessels off Gariah<sup>4</sup> Harbour, three off Sevendroog,<sup>5</sup> two between Anjinwell<sup>6</sup> and Fort Victoria,<sup>7</sup> and nine are gone after the Morattahs. Two large Frigates remain at Goa Bar. This news was immediately dispatched by an Express Camel to Setterah.

*Ghazi-ud-din* **Wednesday 16th.** Informed that Gajudy Caun,<sup>8</sup> formerly Visir to Mahomed Shaw, is coming to Poonah, to endeavour to prevail on Naron Row to reinstate him in the Visier Ship. He is at Ajintow, 100 Coase distance, and came from Jinagur ; also informed on the 13th the Sirpaw of Peshwah was given to Naron Row and that of Naib to Ragobah, as settled here.

*Fateh Singh* **Thursday 17th.** Private advices, mentioning that Futtysing Gaycawar was hovering near Broach<sup>9</sup> with a Considerable Army, and reported also in Town He had wrote his Vackeel, Ballajee Naique Berriah, to request Assistance from hence. I immediately made all the enquiry possible to find out the truth ; and from the best I can at

1. See Appendix No. 19.

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Appendix No. 17.

3. Originally an Arab name for a galley. (Hobson-Jobson)

8. Appendix No. 20. The two places mentioned are : Ajanta and Jainagur which is now called Jaipur.

9. *Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 190.

present procure, find it is true; he has wrote his Agent on this Subject, also to Naron Row, but as yet the Letter to the latter is not delivered.

**Saturday 19th.** From what I can learn regarding *Poona and Broach* Futtysings<sup>1</sup> applications for Assistance from this Court, It is Judged he will not succeed. His Brother, Govind Row, who is now with Naron Row, is by the Rajah Invested with the Sirpaw of Sanai Cazgy,<sup>2</sup> that is, one of His Ministers, which raises him above his Brother. This Court has procured this for him, that, in case Futtysing proves at any time Refractory, they have it in their Power by assisting Govind Row, who has ever since his Father's death, laid claim to the Government, to bring the other to Reason.

**Sunday 20th.** The reports in Town are so various *N. Rao's return* and contradictory respecting Naron Rows motions, that no Credit can be placed in any of them, which renders it impossible for me to advise my Superiors with any certainty what his Intentions may be. Some say he means to return directly to Poonah; others that he will take a tour of a Month about the Country to show the Neighbouring Powers He is prepared to receive them, in case they should attempt to attack him. Even this morning I was told An Express Camel arrived to acquaint the Governor, Narrow Apajee, that it would be a month before he came into Town; and this afternoon I am informed by a Bhramin, that left the Camp two Days past, it was determined the 3rd Day of next Moon for his entrance into Town. However two or three days will clear it up.

1. Appendix No. 4.

2. Senai Cazgy is the same as Sena Khas Khel, a title of the Gaikwars. See Appendix No. 4. Mostyn's translation of Senai Cazgy="one of his ministers" conveys rather an inadequate idea. Sena=army, Khas=personal, Khel=leader; the phrase means: a leader of the King's own choice for the army. Mr. G. S. Sardesai kindly supplied this explanation.

*Investiture* **Monday 21th.** Received a Letter from Ramajee Chitnees under the 19th, acquainting me that the Rajah had invested Naron Row with full Authority as Peshwah Punt Pradan or first Minister, and would in a few days set out for Poonah.

*Anklesvar trouble* **Tuesday 22th.** Late in the Evening received my Superiors Commands of the 16th, inclosing Paragraphs of the Committee of Broach, their Correspondence with the Presidency &ca as relate to the Conduct of the Pundit of the Ackleseer<sup>1</sup> Purganna, with Direction to apply to the Durbar for immediate orders to put a Stop to the like behaviour in future and Satisfaction for the Past. But as Naron Row with all the Ministers are not yet returned from Setterah, tho' expected in a few days, It must be deferred untill then; for any application by Letter will not, I judge, hasten the Dispatch of the Orders, as I imagine he will not Issue them untill he comes into Town.

*Letter from Bombay* **To**  
**THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.**  
 Resident at the Morattah Durbar Poonah.

**SIR,**

*Bombay orders* By advices received from the Committee at Broach we are acquainted of the unjustifiable Conduct of the Pundit of Occlasier<sup>2</sup>; extracts of such parts of which as relate thereto are enclosed for your notice to enable you to make a proper Representation of it to the Durbar, that the

1 and 2. Anklesvar Taluka is a southern taluka of Broach District, including the petty, *petha*, or sub-division of Hansot. Anklesvar town, the head-quarters of the taluka, is situated 6 miles south of Broach City and 3 miles from the left bank of the Narbada. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, V, 385-386) It came into the hands of the Marathas towards the middle of the 18th century. After defeating Damaji Gaikwar in 1751, the Peshwa claimed 15 lakhs as the sum due for arrears and the half of Gujarat and of all future conquests. This included Hansot, Anklesvar, etc. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 180-81)

necessary Orders may be immediately given to put a stop thereto for the future and for obtaining satisfaction for the Past ; which we have no doubt from the good disposition of Naron Row and his Ministers towards the Company, but that you will be enable easily to procure.

Your letters of the 28th Ultimo and 6th Inst. have been duly received.

Bombay, 16th December, 1772.

We are Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

BRICE FLETCHER

DANIEL DRAPER

”

BENJAMIN JERVIS

”

NATHANAEL STACKHOUSE

ROBERT GARDEN.

Copies of such parts of the Committee at Broach, their *Anklesvar* correspondence with the Hon'ble the President and Council, *incident* as relate to the Conduct of the Pundit of Occalasier<sup>1</sup> :

#### UNDER THE 29TH NOVEMBER LAST.

The head Patell of Succapoor Village, who came hither on the 27th Instant, having represented to us that the Peshwabs Pundit of Occlasier, thinking to avail himself of the unsettled state of the Country, had claimed the Revenues of that and another Village called Shoopoor, both which are near Occlasier and part of the Broach Territory, and sent his people to plant the Peshwabs Collours there, on which a Skirmish ensued between them and the Inhabitants of those Villages, wherein four Succapoor Patells were killed, We wrote a Letter to the Occalasier Pundit,<sup>2</sup>

1. Anklesvar.

2. A Hindu Law-Officer. In the Maratha and Telegu countries the word Pundit is usually pronounced Pant ; but in this form it has lost its original meaning, and became a mere personal title familiar in Maratha history. (Hobson-Jobson)

requiring him to come and acquaint us why he presumed to molest those of our Subjects, and informing him at the same time that he shall be responsible to his Master for the Consequences that may arise from it; and if he does not give us suitable Satisfaction for the same, we shall endeavour to find means for obtaining it; in which case we shall be sorry should the Town of Occlasier suffer by the measures we shall be obliged to take from his ill behaviour for the Protection of our Subjects, who, we are determined, shall be nowhere insulted or ill treated. To this Letter the Pundit has returned a very unsatisfactory Answer, and we hear he still continues his Depredations.

#### UNDER THE 4TH DECEMBER.

The Patells of Occlasier and Jussool, we are informed, Attacked the Inhabitants of Succapoor and Soohapoor Villages two days since, killed some of the Inhabitants, and laid waste several of their Fields of Sugar Cane and Gram. But we have sent no troops for their Protection, wishing to avoid as much as possible the least appearance of carrying on Hostilities against any of the Morattahs.

#### POSTSCRIPT OF THE SAME DATE.

One of our Pattamars,<sup>1</sup> who was on his way hither from Surat, received a wound this morning from some of the Morattahs near Occlasier, of which he is since Dead.

A true Copy.

George Skipp Secry.

*N. Rao's*      **Wednesday 23rd.** Notwithstanding Ramajee Chitnees  
*return* wrote me the 19th, Naron Row would be here in a few days, I now hear he will not arrive before the 7th of next Moon, or the 31st Inst; and tho' his Stay is longer than I expected, yet I think the Affair of the Pundits of Ockleseer

1. A foot-runner, a messenger.

had best be deferred untill I can make a personal application for redress.

**Friday 25th.** Received from Ramajee Chitnees *Mostyn's* Naron Rows second Order (on Narro Apajee) for Durjer- *quarters* sings House.

**Sunday 27th.** My Superiors may Probably imagine, *Letter to* no Reply being sent to their Commands received 22d, it *Bombay* proceeds from remissness. Judged it proper to advise them with the motives, and accordingly addressed them the following Letter.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your Commands of the 16th, with the enclosed Para- *Anklesvar* graphs relating to the Pundit of Acklesseer, reached me *delay* the 22d. I shall not fail making the proper presentation to the Durbar regarding the Pundits Conduct, and requiring the necessary Orders and Satisfaction for his Behaviour, as soon as Naron Row arrives; which Reports have been so various that I cannot say for certain when he will come, but the 31st is now said to be the Day appointed. *N. Rao* On the 21st I received a Letter from Ramajee Chitnees *Peshwa* acquainting me the Rajah had invested Naron Row with the same full Powers as his Predecessors had enjoied, and then mentions his Setting out for Poona in two or three Days. This prevented my replying sooner to your afore-said Commands in hopes of being able to have given a full Answer thereto.

I have been informed for a truth Futtysing had made *Fateh* application to this Court for Assistance against us at Broach; *Singh* as yet no Answer has been given him, nor do I believe the Durbar will venture to Assist him; the Place is of much



importance to this Court as well as to Futtysing; for by what I can learn, it is the Key into the Guzerat Country, from whence they both draw considerable Revenues; therefore some overtures may be expected from them, provided your Honor &ca mean to part with the Place.

*The* The States round about seem to be peaceably inclined  
*Nizam* towards this Government. The Nizams Troops, as before  
 advised, have taken the field, but from the best Intelligence  
*The* more for show than anything else. Jonajee Bouncellos  
*Bhonsles* Brothers, Moodajee and Sabajee, are contending for the  
 Government<sup>1</sup>; the latter has received the Sirpaw from this  
 Durbar in the name of the Rajah, but which the former  
 Disputes on Acct. his Son having been adopted by  
*Haidar* Jonajee, who had no Children of his own. I cannot learn  
*Ali* for certain what Heyder Ally is doing further than the  
 Report of his intention of joining the Portuguese, whose  
 Fleet, it is currently said, is Cruzing off the Morattahs  
 Ports in hopes of obtaining satisfaction for their Frigate.  
*Affairs in* Their affairs In Indostan do not altogether wear so good a  
*Hindu-* face.<sup>2</sup> The Commanding Officers, Madjee Scindy, Tooca-  
*stan* jee Holker and Vissaji Punt Benewallah, are disputing about  
 the Chief Command; the two latter have invited the Rohil-  
 lah, Japta<sup>3</sup> Caun, promising to make him Duan or Visir of  
 Dhilly, in hope of geting by that means twenty or thirty  
 Lacks of Rupees from him. The former opposes this  
 measure. The King is also averse to it. This will, it's  
 imagined, cause some Alterations [*altercations*] and may  
*Ghazi-ud-* give them some trouble, as they are all Powerful Men. It  
*din* is also confidently reported one Gajudy Caun,<sup>4</sup> some time  
 Vizir to the late Moghull, Mohamed Shaw, is coming to

1. Appendix No. 19,

2. Appendix No. 21.

3. Zabita Khan, the son of Najib-ud-daula.

4. Appendix No. 20.

Poonah to endeavour to get Naron Row to Reinstate him in the Vizirship: his success, I suppose, will depend on the Sum he is able to pay down, tho' it must be some very considerable inducement that will make these People to undertake anything this Year, as I am told their Treasury is very low, owing to Madah Row before his death paying off all the Government Debt amounting to Eighty Lacks of Rupees, and has rendered it necessary for them to Order most of their Revenues to be paid in Specie, instead of each District keeping a Body of Men ready whenever Required. *Financial straits*

POONAH, 27th December, 1772.

I am with respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your most Obedient Humble Servant.

**Tuesday 29th.** Late this Evening Received the following Letter from Naron Row.

After Compliments.

I acquaint you that the 13th of Ramzan I entered Setterah and met the Rajah of the Great Kingdom, who the Heavens have appointed the Distributer of Honor. He conferred on me much Favour; and on the 17th of same month, at happy hour, Gods giver of Power assembled all the Great Men & Officers of his Kingdom in Council, and on that day did raise my Head with his Goodness, and gave me the Title of Punt Pradan, with a Sirpaw of Gold Cloth named Badla, sundry Jewells named Coolgeer<sup>1</sup> and Sirpage,<sup>2</sup> also a Simitar, Cattaree, Shield, and an Elephant. Having received the above Title and Presents, I was dispatched with a general Discharge of Cannon; and as I imagine *N. Rao's letter to Mostyn*

1. Culgee, a jewelled plume surmounting the sirpesh, an aigrette upon the turban. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. Sirpesh, an ornament worn in front of the turban, it sometimes consists of gold plates. It is also a band of silk and embroidery worn round the turban. (Hobson-Jobson)

you will be pleased with this Intelligence, I send this Letter for Your information.

SETTERAH, 19th Ramzan.

*N. Rao's* **Wednesday 30th.** Very late last Night Naron Rao  
*return* came to Perwetty.<sup>1</sup>

*Request* **Thursday 31th.** At 3 o'Clock this morning Naron  
*for* Row came from Perwetty into Town, it being a lucky  
*audience* hour. At his passing the Toofcannas,<sup>2</sup> they fired 26 Guns;  
and on his entering the Palace, 73 more. Ragobah does  
not come untill the 5th January, that being his Lucky day.  
At 8, I sent the Linguist with a Translation of the Broach  
Committees Correspondence, sent me by my Superiors, to  
Ramajee Chitnees to desire He would procure me an  
Audience as soon as possible in Order to procure redress  
for the Pundits Conduct and pay my Compliments to  
Naron Row on his receiving the Rajahs Sirpaw as Peshwah  
Punt Pradan. He sent me word he would speak to Naron  
*News* Row and let me know in the Afternoon. About noon the  
*from* Mirdaw<sup>3</sup> of the Pattamars informed me that a pair of  
*Surat and* Cossids arrived in Town last night from Surat in five Days;  
*Broach* That Mr. Price and Dunjee Shaw were gone to Broach; and  
that our Troops had erected a Battery at Jedesser Village  
about two Coase distant; Futtysing with 5,000 Men were  
quartered about 3 Coase distant from the Battery; and  
that some Horse were ordered to watch it, three of whom  
were killed; that Futtysing had stoped the Communication  
between Broach and Surat; a pair of the Pattamars of the  
Hon'ble Companys, going from Surat to Broach, were killed.

1. Parvati, hill with palace and temple near Poona. (*Imp. Gaz. of India* XX, 12)

2. Tope-Khana or ordnance department (Hobson-Jobson)

3. Mir means a headman, and Mir Dow means the headman of the ship, *i.e.* the captain. The word is here used figuratively, and means the headman of the couriers.

This passed two days before the Cossids left Surat. In the *Audience* Evening Ramajee Chitnees sent to acquaint me that Naron *granted* Row would send for me to-morrow ; but being a Visit of Compliment on his receiving charge of the Government from the Rajah, it would be better to defer talking on Business till another time. Agreeable to what I was told *Ghazi-ud-* under the 16th, Gajudy Caun is arrived at Samgome with- *din* in a Coase of Poonah, and Just on the other side of the River. But, I hear, will not come into Town untill Naron Row had been to pay him a Visit.

The Disbursements for December, being closed this *Accounts* Day, are as follows :

Disbursements on Acct. the Residency of Poonah for December, 1772.

To Factory Charges Viz.

Diet to the Resident	...	50-0-0
Ditto to Mr. Lane	...	30-0-0
House rent to the Resident	...	80-0-0
Ditto to Mr. Lane from the 1st		
to the 24th as writer	...	16-0-0
Ditto Do. 24 to the 31		
as Factor	...	9-1-33
Allowance to Mr. Lane as		
reader of divine service	.	12-2-,,

—————197-1-33

1 Purvoo	...	20-,,,-
1 Gentoo Writer	...	20-,,,-
1 Persian Ditto	...	15-,,,-
2 Durbar Servants	...	20-,,,-
1 Ditto Do. for Mr. Lane	...	10-,,,-
2 Chopdars	...	20-,,,-
2 Massalmen	...	12-,,,-
2 Summeraidmen	...	10-,,,-
1 Baker	...	10-,,,-
1 Cook	...	10-,,,-
4 Coolies	...	24-,,,-
0 Hamals	...	60-,,,-
1 Gardener	...	6-,,,-
2 Horse keepers	...	12-,,,-
1 Halancore	...	5-,,,-

—————254-,,,-

Candles for the Office	...	4-,-,,	
Coconut Oil for Lamps	...	8-,-,,	
Jinjilee Do. for Massals	...	5-,-,,	
Rose water Beatlenut leaves			
&ca.	...	5-1-,,	
		—————	22-1-,,
			—————

473-2-33

## Provisions, Viz.

Provision money to the following from the  
1st to the 31st Instant :

1 Subedar	...	2 qrs. per Day	...	15-2-,,
2 Jumledars	...	1.25	...	19-1-50
2 Havalgars	...	.75	...	11-2-50
2 Naiques	...	.75	...	11-2-50
53 Sepoys including				
Tomtoms and				
Watermen	...	.50	...	205-1-50
1 Purvoo	...	2 @ day	...	15-2-,,
1 Persian Writer...	2 @ Do.	...	15-2-,,	
3 Servants	...	.50	...	11-2-50
2 Chopdars	...	.50	...	7-3-,,
2 Massalmen	...	.50	...	7-3-,,
2 Summeraidmen...	.50	...	7-3-,,	
4 Coolies	...	.50	...	15-2-,,
10 Hamals	...	.50	...	38-3-,,
1 Gardener	...	.50	...	3-3-50
1 Cook	...	.50	...	3-3-50
1 Baker	...	.50	...	3-3-50
2 Horse keepers	...	.50	...	7-3-,,
4 Men belonging to				
Purvoes &ca....	.50	...	15-2-,,	
1 Halancore	...	.50	...	3-3-50

————— 422-1-50

## To Charges Extraordinary, Viz.

Paid sundry Sepoys sent with Let-			
ters to Bombay ...	...	14-,-,,	
Provision supplied to a pair of			
Patr. come from Surat ...	...	1-2-,,	
Paid for Burying a European ...	...	2-,-,,	
Enams to Josoods attending on			
the Provisions supplied by Govt. .	...	8-,-,,	
Paid Chopdars belonging to			
Mahomet Ally Caun's Vackeel,			
on Christmass day...	...	10-,-,,	
Given to the Poor ...	...	1-1-,,	
			37-,-,,
„ Stable Charges :—			
Shoes for horses ...	...	3-2-,,	
Hay for Ditto. ...	...	4-,-40	
Horse for the use of the Linguist	...	15-,-,,	
			22-2-40
„ Garrison Charges :—			
Brass Trumpet ...	...	15-,-,,	
Coconut Oil for Arms	...	,-2-,,	
			15-2-,,
„ Accounts Presents :—			
Given to Trimbeck Ve Nique on his being			
appointed Subedar of Bassein and Seer Surdar			
of the Conkon :—			
1 Shawl ...	...	40-,-,,	
1 Kincob	...	40-,-,,	
			80-,-,,
			Rupees...1051-,-23

Poonah, 31st December, 1772.

THE END OF THE YEAR 1772.

**Diary of the Proceedings of Thomas Mostyn, Esqr.,  
Resident at Poonah, commencing the 1st January,  
1773.<sup>1</sup>**

*Audience*      **Friday 1st.** Agreeable to Ramajee Chitnees message to me Yesterday, Naron Row this morning sent for me; after making Him the usual Present on His Accession to the Peshwaship and proper Compliments on the Occasion, Requested Ramajee Chitnees would Desire Him to appoint some Persons to Transact any Business that might Occur between the Durbar and me; (it being the Practice here for all applications to be made thro' a Minister) and Hinted Nanna Furneese and himself the Persons I should chose; the first, I know, is Naron Rows Favourite and whose advise He follows; the Second not only in Esteem but thro' whom all Affairs are Dispatched, and who has upon all Occasions showed a willingness to Oblige me. Naron Row readily acquiesced, and I then took my leave.

*Raghoba's arrival*      **Saturday 2nd.** Early this morning Naron Row went to meet His Uncle, Ragobah, and about 11 o'clock accompanied Him into Town on the same Elephant.

*Future of Broach*      **Sunday 3rd.** Ramajee Chitnees this morning paid me a visit; after some general Conversation He entered on the Subject of Broach, saying on Account of the Debt due to us from the Nabob and His breach of Faith We had Chasized Him by taking His Fort with all His Riches and Family; therefore We had received the Satisfaction We could Desire.

1. From September 29, 1772 to December 31, 1772, the *Diary* numbers 43 pages. With the opening of the year 1773 the title of *Diary* is repeated in the manuscript of which the pagination starts anew from page 1.

But as this Government has right to all the Country in the Deckan [*Deccan*], that Place of Course belonged to them. I told Him I did not know any right [*they*] had to the Country more than what Force of Arms had given them; and as it has pleased God to put Us in possession, We should keep it; much more passed pro and con; but the whole, I could perceive, tended to find out if We would part with it. I therefore told Him if they wanted the Place, and would point out what Advantages would accrue therefrom to the Hon'ble Company, I would acquaint my Superiors with it. He told me the Durbar would in a Day or two talk with me on this Subject. I then asked Him for the Order to the Pundit of Achleseer<sup>1</sup> to put a stop to His molesting the Villages in the Jurisdiction of Broach. He said He had Naron Rows Orders Complying with my Request, and would send it me to-morrow. I acquainted Him the Hon'ble Company would Expect further Satisfaction than barely putting a stop to it; however as He said the Durbar meant to talk with me about this matter, I would defer saying anything more till then, on which the Chitnees took leave.

This Evening both Naron Row and Ragobah Visited Ghazi-ud-Ganjudy Caun at Samgome, and were each presented with a Dress, Coolgeer, and Sirpage.<sup>2</sup>

**Monday 4th.** This afternoon Ramajee Chitnees sent me the Letter to the Pundit of Ocleseer<sup>3</sup> to read, but requested I would return it that it might be Sealed; and He would send it me again in the morning.

**Tuesday 5th.** This morning I received the Letter; and the Chitnees sent to inform me Naron Row would send for me to the Durbar This Evening or to-morrow morning. As Broach will most Likely be the Purport of Our meeting,

1 and 3. Anklesvar.

2. *Diary*, December 29, 1772.



Judge it better to defer sending away the Letter to the Governor and Council untill I hear what they have to say, as I shall then probably be able to acquaint my Superiors with some degree of certainty what Terms the Durbar may in the end be brought to ; for I am convinced they will not, at First, Offer anything that can be accepted, but talk in a threatening and high Strain, that they may the better find out our Expectations.

*Fateh Singhand Broach* This Evening the Mucherdum<sup>1</sup> of Pattamars informed me He had learnt from two Cossids, who Arrived from Broach in ten Days, that Futtysing was quartered with 6,000 Men within three Coase of our Battery at Jodeseer and that all Communications whatever was stoped between Surat and Broach.

*Called to the Durbar* **Wednesday 6th.** I was this Evening sent for to the Durbar, and after being received in the Publick Hall of Audience, Sacaram Bappoo was sent for, and We retired into a Private Apartment ; and as I intend seting forth every Particular in my next Advices to my Superiors, that passed at this Visit, it is needless entering it Here. But on my Coming away, I Delivered the Chitnees the Memorandums<sup>2</sup> given me by the Governor, as entered hereafter, and requested He would procure the necessary Orders.

*Demands on Poona Durbar* List of Demands on the Morattah Durbar, Delivered to Thomas Mostyn, Esqr. the 27th September, 1772, by the Hon'ble the President.

1. Sundry losses sustained by our Surat, and Bombay Merchants by the Bramins Officers plundering and taking their Vessels ; which loss Thomas Mostyn, Esqr., when at Poonah, settled at Rupees 30,915,,3,,50 ; and Madah Row

1. Mocuddum or mukaddam is the headman of a village, of a gang of labourers, of a body of peons. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. Appendix No. 14.

Issued an Order to Vissajee Punt, Subedar of Baseen, to pay the above Sum by means of Ramjee Yadawjee, our Vackeel ; but no money is yet paid.

2. Madah Row ordered Vissajee Punt to give to Byramjee Homjee a boat of about 200 Candies,<sup>1</sup> in lieu of one belonging to Him, which was burnt by Condajee Manher, late Subedar of Salsette, which Order is not yet Complied with.

3. The Boat belonging to Nasserwanjee Moody is not yet given up to Him, tho' we have an Order from Madah Row for the purpose.

4. The Coolies of Caranjah have unreasonably put their fishing Stakes in an improper place, to the very great Prejudice of our Coolies, which they never before put there either in Portuguese or Bramins time ; the late Governor did therefore apply to Madah Row, who Ordered the Subedar of Caranjah to take them away, but he refused complying therewith. Since which the Governor did Complain to Vissajee Punt, the Sur Subedar, when at Caranjah, who Desired Ragojee Angrah, then there, to Examine this Dispute ; which He did, and Reported to Vissajee that the Stakes should be taken away ; who did thereupon Issue an Order for that Purpose, notwithstanding which they remain there Still.

5. The Governor wrote a Letter to Madah Row, desiring He would Issue an Order to His Officer at Anjinwell for the Delivery of the Ruparal and Her Cargoe belonging to Monakjee Moody of Surat. But Madah Row Issued an Order only for the Delivery of the Ship Stores &c, saying He could not give up the Cargoe till He had Enquired into the Affair. This Order for the Vessel was sent to the

1. Candy is a weight which may be stated roughly at about 500 lbs. (Hobson-Jobson)

Officer at Anjinwell, but he has evaded a Compliance therewith.

*Letter from Bombay* Very late this Evening received a Letter from the Hon'ble President and Council at Bombay, to which a due Obedience shall be shewn.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at  
POONAH.

Sir,

*Fateh Singh's offer* Futtysing has lately Offered<sup>1</sup> for the Cession of the Town and Territory of Broach the sum of 6 Lacks of Rups, three of which to be paid in ready Money and the remainder in two Equal Payments of a Lack and a Half each, together with an Annual Sum of Rupees 60,000 for ever out of the share of the Revenues of Surat City, or in such other manner as might be most Acceptable ; this Offer we have rejected, deeming it very inadequate to the real value of our new acquisition. We Communicate these particulars, *Bombay offer* that You may sound the Sentiments of the Morattah Durbar respecting Broach, and that You may learn whether the Cession to them of the Town and Territory belonging to it, added to what Hon'ble Employers have pointed out, may not be an Inducement to them to come into their Views,<sup>2</sup> and to make over in addition thereto the Share they hold in the Revenues of Surat and Its Districts. We recommend that You observe such Caution in respect to this matter

1. In the *Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency* (VII, 190) it is wrongly stated that Fateh Singh made this offer on January 12, 1773, and that he offered to pay the British 6 lakhs per annum. January 12, 1773, is the date of the final treaty, of which Mostyn is informed on January 19, 1773 (*Diary*, 19, 1, 1773) ; and Fateh Singh had to pay six lakhs of rupees in three instalments, and therefore not six lakhs per annum.

2. *Diary*, September 29, 1772.

that the first Overtures may be made by the Durbar, which you will not fail to acquaint Us of as soon as possible, that We may send you the necessary Directions; and as the Town and Territory of Broach must be a Valuable Acquisition to Naron Row, so we hope, when a proper Representation is made of it, that it will be an Inducement to Him to propose further Advantages for our Hon'ble Employers than those they before Expected.

BOMBAY CASTLE, 31st Decemr, 1772.

We are Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

BENJN. JERVIS

BRICE FLETCHER

ROBERT GARDEN

DANIEL DRAPER

NATH. STACKHOUSE

WILLIAM TAYLER

**Thursday 7th.** Wrote my Superiors as follows, in *Letter to* which is fully set forth all that passed Yesterday at the *Bombay* Durbar.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council of

BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

My last respects waited on you the 27th Ultimo, and *N. Rao's* on the 29th I received a Letter from Naron Row to the *letter* same Purport as the one from Ramajee Chitnees, Advising me of the Rajahs having Invested Him, with the same full Powers as His Brother had. The next Day he came to *Return to* Perwetty, and early in the morning of the 31st He came to *Poona* Town, but Ragobah not untill the 2d. The same morning I sent to Ramajee Chitnees a Translate of the Paragraphs *Request* of the Broach Committees Letters, desiring an Order might *for* be Issued to put a stop to the Ocleseer Pundits Conduct *audience* and to procure me an Audience. He sent me word He would acquaint Naron Row and let me know in the Evening.

He accordingly advised me Naron Row would send for me the next Evening ; but it being a visit of Compliment on His receiving Charge of the Govt., it would be better to defer talking on Business untill another Opportunity ;

*Audience* agreeable thereto, the next Evening being the first, I was sent for ; after making the Present in the name of the Hon'ble Company and the proper Compliments on the occasion, I requested Ramajee Chitnees would speak to Naron Row to appoint some Persons with whom I could Confer on any Business that might Occur, hinting that Nanna Furneese and Himself [*Ramaji Chitnis*] were those I should choose, as knowing the first to be His Favorite, and whose Advice He followed, and the other not only in Esteem, but thro' whom all Business is dispatched, and who has upon all Occasions shewn a willingness to oblige me. He told me He would, and promised to wait on me in a Day or

*Broach discussed* two. On the 3d, He came ; Broach and the pretensions this Government had to all the Country in the Deckan, was the Subject ; much was said pro and Con ; but the whole, I could perceive, tended to find out if we would part with it. I accordingly told Him that, if they wanted the Place and would point what Advantages would arise therefrom to the Hon'ble Company, I would advise my Superiors therewith.

*Anklesvar incident* He said the Durbar would in a Day or two talk with me on this Topick. I then asked Him for the Order to the Ocleseer Pundit. He had, agreeable to my message, acquainted Naron Row, and had His Orders to Comply with it, and would send me the Letter on the morrow. The Company, I told Him, would expect further Satisfaction than barely puting a stop to it ; however as He said the Durbar would enter on this Business, I should defer saying anything more untill then. The fourth, Ramajee sent me the Letter open, to peruse and take a copy, but not sealed, the which He would get done in the Evening, and return it me in the morning.

He did so, and at the same time acquainted me Naron Row would send for me that Evening or the next Day. As I imagined Regarding Broach would be the purport of Our meeting, I judged it better to defer transmitting it to Your Honor &ca untill I had heard what they had to say.

On the 6th in the afternoon I was sent for; after *Audience* being received in the Public Hall of Audience and Sacaram Bappoo sent for, We retired into an inner Apartment, where were present Naron Row, Sacaram Bappoo, Hurry Punt Furkiah, Naron Row Pharisnees, and Ramajee Chitnees. Nanna Furnees was sent for; but it being a fast Day with Him, could not attend. Sacaram opened the Conversation *Friendship* by telling me that, notwithstanding they had the misfortune to loose Madah Row, Naron Row was here to whom I might open myself and acquaint Him with any Business I was Entrusted with. I told Him I had no very Particular business to mention; but was sent here to Confirm and Strengthen Our Friendship, that no trifles might give Disgust or break it. He then took out the Articles of *The* Capitulation made with Chimnajee Apah,<sup>1</sup> read the 7th<sup>2</sup> *Treaty of 1739* wherein it's mentioned (as they have made it) that their Enemies were Ours, and Ours theirs, and that we should not supply their Enemies, tho' in Amity with us, with any of the Articles of War. If this is the Case, says he, how came it that You obliged Us by Assisting the Sciddee<sup>3</sup> to raise the Siege we had formed against Jinjerah. I told<sup>4</sup> him *Mostyn's* the Article was not in the Original as they explained it, *reply* but mentions that we will not supply their Enemies with more Stores or any other sorts than we supplied them with; but was it as they say, their calling to their Assistance the Portuguese rendered it but Just and necessary for Us to Assist the Sciddee at his request; however if they would peruse the Treaty made with Govind Sewram, they would

*Angria's* find they had no right to Attack the Sciddee at all. Here  
*sons* this subject dropped, and Sacaram immediately took up that  
 regarding our Detention of Angriahs Sons, saying that by  
 the above quoted Treaty we should have delivered them up  
 to them again. I told them we did not look upon those  
 Children as coming under any one of the Articles of the  
 Treaty; for they were Delivered to them upon a promise  
 of their being well treated, instead of which they were  
 made Prisoners; but regarding all that had been said, both  
 with respect to Angriah and the Sciddee, I had before,  
 when here, settled with Madah Row; therefore where was  
*Haidar* the use of their again entering on this subject. Sacaram  
*Ali* then flew to the War with Heyder Ally, observing that, tho'  
 they were invited to Join Him, yet they refused to do it out  
 of regard to the Friendship that subsisted between us; this  
 we should Consider. I answered I suppose it was more out  
*Pilgrim* of regard their own Convenience than Ours. He then  
*tax* Jumped to Prague [*Allahabad*] and Banares [*Benares*], say-  
 ing that, since those Provinces came into our Possession,  
 we had made new Regulations. I asked Him in what  
 respect. He said that formerly the People that went thither  
 on Pilgrimage only paid 30 Rupees a head, but now they  
 were obliged to pay 100 to 150. This it was necessary for  
 me to write and put a Stop to. I replied (tho' only on  
 Conjecture) that, tho' the Forts were in our Hands, Yet the  
 Country was under the Nabobs and only paid Us a Tribute.  
*Broach* Sacaram then came to the Point and mentioned our Con-  
 quest of Broach, that, as the Nabob had failed in His  
 Treaty with Us, they had no objections to Our Chastising  
 Him, and which we had Effectually done by taking His  
 Fort whith His Family and all His Treasure, and therefore  
 had got full Satisfaction; but as they had pretensions to all  
 the Country in the Deckan, the Place must be Delivered up  
 to them; and if we thought to keep it and the Country,

we should certainly be Disappointed. I replied if they had pretensions to all the Country, which to me was very Doubtfull, why did they not take it themselves? He said for Ten Years past, they had been much employed with Disputes in their own Family, Heyder Ally and the different States around; had therefore not turned their thoughts that way; if they had, that with their Fleet and land Forces they could have taken it, tho' perhaps not in four Days, yet in fifteen, or a Month. I told Him of that I made no doubt; as it had pleased God, Tho' at a very great Expense of Blood and Treasure, besides what the Nabob owed us, to put Us in Possession, He [*Sakharam Babu*] might be assured we would not give it up. Here the Subject Dropped, and after a few Compliments passing I took my leave.

From what has passed, your Honor &ca, may please *Mostyn's* to Observe the method they took in bringing on the Subject *views* and the high Strain they talk in, which is their manner; besides I know Sacaram Bappoo is no Friend to the Hon'ble Company; however as I am informed He has no great weight with his Master, and Nanna Furnees will be the Person appointed to Converse with me on Business, who seems to be a Man of Abilities and Moderation, I am in hopes of bringing them to an Eclaircissement, tho' it may take up some time; for their [*there*] is no prevailing on these People to move out of their usual way; and was I to appear anxious about it, it would induce them to imagine we wanted to get rid of of the Place; but from the whole of the Conversation, both with the Durbar and Ramajee Chitnees, it appears to me they are Desirous of getting it out of our Hands.

On my return from the Durbar, Your Commands of *Bombay* the 31st Ultimo came to hand, to which a due Obe- *orders* dience shall be shewn; and Enclosed Your Honor &ca will receive the Letter to the Pundit of Oclesseer with it's Copy.



*Ghazi-ud-din* On the 31st Ultimo Ganjudy Caun arrived at Sangom within a Coase of Poonah; and on the 3rd Instant both Naron Row and Ragobah paid him a Visit. His Errant, from what I can learn, is the same as advised You in my last; but it is not probable He will receive any Assistance from this Court, at least this Year; for they have Discharged a number of People, since they came from Setterah.

*The Nizam* The Nizam has also wrote them for Assistance against Moodajee Bouncello, who, I am informed, has plundered two or three Districts wherein they are both Concerned; and they have with some difficulty sent twelve Hundred Men.

*Fat-Singh* About five Days ago, I am told for certain, one Ponderah, a Servant of Futtysings, went hence with a thousand Horse to Join His Master.

*Deserters* Some days ago Harry Dye and Paul Christian came to me and desired to be sent to Bombay; the former deserted from the Terrible at Bancoot, the latter from Surat, but is too Ill to be now sent; the other with one John Cornish, who came here a few Days since, are sent in charge of four Sepoys. John Cornish says He has got his Discharge and was on His Passage to England in the Hamshire, Captain Tayler; but going on shore at Anjengo, was left behind; from thence came to Tellycherry, and whence sent to Bombay; however as an Englishman, whether He has Discharge or not, have thought it incumbent on me to return him.

POONAH, 7th January, 1773.

I remain with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

*Copies of treaties* P. S. As the Different Treaties entered into with the Marattahs may frequently be brought on the Carpet, I should be obliged to You for Jentoo Copies<sup>1</sup> from the Origin-

1. Appendix No. 22, I.

nal to Confront with theirs. I am just now informed the *The*  
 Nizams Vackeel, who came here to Solicit Assistance *Nizam*  
 against Moodajee Bouncello, has this Evening been  
 Dispatched with a Promise of being supplied with five  
 thousand Horse.

**Friday 8th.** The Nizams Vackeel, who came some *The*  
 time ago to request Assistance against Moodajee Bouncello, *Nizam*  
 was this Day Dispatched with a Promise of 5000 Horse ;  
 added this Intelligence in a Postscript to Yesterdays  
 Letter, the Sepoys not being yet gone.

**Saturday 9th.** This afternoon Visited Ramajee Chitnees *Plain*  
 and requested He would be Candid and tell me what *language*  
 the Durbar could mean, or in what light they Expected  
 I should take the whole of the Discourse held forth by  
 Sacaram Bappoo the other day, which had neither  
 beginning nor ending, and was what I had before settled  
 with Madah Row. He said Sacaram only touched upon  
 the different Points and had no particular meaning ;  
 but I should in a day or two be sent for, when they would  
 open themselves ; and He believed that the three Points on  
 which they would talk, were Broach, Jinjerah and Heyder  
 Ally. I told Him if the Durbar had really anything to say,  
 they had much better open themselves at once than talk at  
 Random, from which no Conclusions could be Drawn. He  
 replied they would in time, but nothing could be done in  
 a hurry at this Court.

This Evening am informed that Advices are arrived in *Fighting*  
 Town of an Engagement between the King, Shaw Allum, *at Delhi*  
 and the Morattahs, in which the former was worsted and  
 obliged to retire into Dhilly.<sup>1</sup>

**Wednesday 13th.** This morning Sacaram Bappoo *S. Bapu's*  
 sent for the Linguist, who waited on Him, and on His arrival *proposals*

found Sacaram going to the Durbar; but before He went out, told the Linguist Vissajee Punt would Explain to Him what He had to say. Vissajee accordingly told Him it was Extraordinary Enough that Futtysing and We were Disputing and Treating at Broach, and they and I talking here; that it would be better for me to write, and they would do the same, to Futtysing to let all Hostilities Cease till the Affair was settled one way or other.

*N. Rao's hopes* **Thursday 14th.** I this morning sent the Linguist to the Chitnees to acquaint Him with what Vissajee Punt had said, and ask Him what the Durbar meant to do, as Sacaram was Treating on the Part of Futtysing, and the Durbar, as I understood, in their own behalf. He told the Linguist that Naron Rows Intention was to get the Place into His own Hands; and whatever Futtysing agreed to give, would Comply with; and hoped He might have the Preference.

*Fighting at Delhi* **Friday 15th.** This morning I was Credibly informed two pair of Cossids arrived here Express last night from Vissajee Punt Benewallah and Tookajee Holker in Dhilly, advising the Durbar that, after they had Engaged the King and worsted Him, He with his Forces left Dhilly, passed the Jumnah, and Joined Madjee Scindy (who has revolted from the Morattahs); they both wrote Sujah Dowlah for Assistance; and he has crossed the Gunga with His Army,<sup>1</sup> Joined with such Troops as we had with Him, and met the King; who altogether are 80,000 Horse besides Foot. They have marched and recrossed the Jumnah, and surrounded Dhilly, with Vissajee Punt Benewallah, Tookajee Holker and Japtah Caun in it.

*Official visits* This afternoon Visited Crust Row Balal,<sup>2</sup> and purpose as soon as possible waiting on the other Ministers that I

1. Apparently a false rumour, see Appendix No. 23.

2. See *Diary*, October, 9, 1772.

have not yet been able to pay my respects to on acct. of their being at first with Madah Row at Teur and afterwards with Naron Row at Setterah.

**Saturday 16th.** The Chitnees this morning paid me a Visit; and as He had been informed by the Linguist of what had passed between Sacaram Bappoo and me, I desired He would acquaint me with the Durbars real Intentions; for from the Messages I had received from Him, I understood Naron Row wanted Broach. He replied it was true; and whatever Futtysing Offered, He would give. I told Him it was not clear if the Hon'ble Company would part with it at all. But He might be assured, if Futtysing Offered what could be accepted, and once settled with Us, Naron Row would not get the Place; for we never receded from our Words; therefore if this Court was really Anxious about it, they had best declare themselves; for this Shuffling Behaviour was by no means a proper way for them to obtain their Ends. He said He would privately acquaint Naron Row and would let me know his Answer. I then asked him [*the Chitnis*] whether the Durbar, as Sacaram said, meant to write Futtysing to cease Hostilities. He said the Durbar do intend to write. But Sacaram wished the Town to remain in Our Hands and the Country to be possessed by Futtysing. I replied if Sacaram thought We should give up even an inch of the Territories that belonged to the late Nabob when We took the City, He certainly would find Himself much mistaken; and as to my writing my Superiors to cease quarrelling with Futtysing was needless; for if He did not molest Us, we should not meddle with Him. Before He went away, I requested to know whether Ponderah &ca were actually to Join Futtysing, and if they went with leave of this Durbar. He said those that were gone, were all servants of Futtysings, and therefore wanted no leave from this Court.

*N. Rao  
and  
Broach*

*S. Bapu's  
scheme*

*Ponde-  
rah's  
departure*

I told Him it was impossible any People could go without leave ; for if, as they pretended, Futtysing was actually a Servant of theirs, He could not order them away without their approbation ; to this He made no reply, but soon after left me. Wishing to know if the News, lately received<sup>1</sup> from Hindostan, is true, and thinking it improper to ask the Chitnees myself, Ordered the Linguist to attend Him Home and try to draw from Him what News the Durbar had last received from that quarter, and find He confirms the whole, and adds that Sujah Dowlah has wrote<sup>2</sup> Naron Row that His Officer, Vissajee Punt Benewallah, had acted a very Treacherous part by Attacking the King and wanting to make Japtah Caun<sup>3</sup> Vizir. That He [*Shuja-ud-daula*] had long held that office with this Durbars Consent, and was also a Friend to the Morattahs ; therefore gave them Notice that, unless they relieved their Present Officers, He could not say what might be the Consequence ; however the King and Him would wait for an Answer before they Proceeded to any Violent Measure. This Letter, with those they have received from their Officers in Dhilly, I am told, has put the Durbar in much Consternation, and has induced Naron Row to Issue Orders to His different Officers to hold themselves and Troops in readiness. This Court has been for some Months Past, and still is in great Confusion. The Ministers are Divided into two Parties ; Sacaram Bappoo with a few against Nana and Morabah Furneese ; the former wish by any means to get Ragobah out of Naron Rows Hands ; the latter dread his coming into Power. Naron Row is also desirous of Acting without Control, but has not the Abilities or Power to do it ; and by His Ridiculous Behaviour has Disgusted the Furneeses,

*Events in  
Hindu-  
stan*

*Dismay in  
Poona*

*Dissensions in  
Poona*

1. *Diary*, January 15, 1773.

2. Apparently a false rumour ; see Appendix No. 23.

3. Zabita Khan.

who were His Friends, and they now never go to the Durbar but when sent for. He stands in some Awe of Sacaram Bappoo, but does not like Him; it's therefore imagined Sacaram will not long keep the Duanship. Indeed it's a Doubt with some if the Disturbances in Hindustan are not owing to His Secret Intrigues, as well as Ganjudy Cauns [*Ghazi-ud-din*] coming Here, in hopes that He<sup>1</sup> may by this means get Ragobah Ordered thither at the head of an Army; and indeed I hear He even has hinted it two or three times to Naron Row, who will by no means admit of it. These differences with the Minority of the Prince, make it impossible to get any thing done; as whatever is proposed by one party is sure to be Counteracted and opposed by the other; and in this manner nothing is Concluded.

**Sunday 17th.** This afternoon Visited Hurry Punt *Official visit*  
Furkiah and made Him the necessary Present.

**Monday 18th.** Thinking it necessary my Superiors *Letter to Bombay*  
should be Advised of what has passed since my last, and the very small Prospects I have at present of accomplishing any part of the Hon'ble Companys Views, and also of the Intelligence from Hindustan and Berar, wrote them accordingly as follows.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

My last Respects waited on you the 7th, since when *N. Rao*  
nothing very material regarding my Negotiations has oc- *and*  
curred. I have had two meetings with Ramajee Chitnees. *Broach*

1. Sakharam Bapu, see *Diary*, January 1, 1773, where in a parallel passage Sakharam is explicitly mentioned.

He plainly tells me Naron Row wants Broach ; and whatever Futtysing offers, He is ready to Comply with. I have told him I was not sure the Company would part with the Place ; but If He staid untill Futtysing has settled with us, He would Certainly never get it ; for be Assured we should not recede from our Words. On the other hand Sacaram *S. Bapu* and *Bappoo* is acting on the part of Futtysing, and three Days *Broach* ago desired I would sent the Linguist to Him ; the purport of His Message was to acquaint me that Futtysing and we were Treating and Disputing at Broach, and they and I were talking here ; that it would be better for me to write, and they would do the same, to let all Hostilities cease untill the Affair was settled one way or other. I have not seen or heard from Him since ; but on mentioning this to the Chitnees, and asking if the Durbar meant to write Futtysing, He said they did Intend writing ; but the Views of Sacaram were that Futtysing should Command the *Mostyn's* Country, and We keep the Town. I replied He might *reply* Depend upon it we should not give up an Inch of the Territory that was possessed by the Nabob at the time we took it ; nor was it necessary for me to write my Superiors to cease Disputing with Futtysing ; for if He did not molest us, we should not interfere or meddle with Him. I wish I could give your Honor &c a any Prospects of my being able to accomplish in some degree the material part of the Hon'ble Company's Views ; at present I see none ; what time and Circumstances may do, I know not. The Ministers are totally divided and oppose each other. Naron Row pays little regard to any, but has not the art or Power to determine solely. He stands in some awe of Sacaram Bappoo, but does not like Him, who, it's believed, will not long Hold the Duanship. Nanna & Morabah Furneeses, who were His Friends, and Enemies to the Duan, He has lately by some trifling Behaviour Disgusted ; and they do

*Dissensions*  
*in Poona*

not attend the Durbar but when sent for. From these *Hopeless*  
 Circumstances, it is very Difficult to get any determinate *delay*  
 Answer from them or almost any Answer at all that You  
 can rely on ; for by some means it's generally over Ruled.  
 Some time before Madah Rao died, Naron Row sent to  
 acquaint me that, as it was Inconvenient to Govind Sewrams  
 Son my remaing in His Garden, They had come to a  
 Resolution of giving me the House of Rajah Durgersing for  
 my fixed abode, and Delivered me an Order to Trimbuck  
 Row Mamma, then Governor in Poonah, to have it pre-  
 pared for my Reception ; that Order had since been twice  
 Repeated, but without Effect, solely thro' Sacaram Bappoo  
 and Vissajee Punt, who, as I before Advised You, are  
 staunch opposers to every thing in favour of the English or,  
 I believe, any Europeans. From this Trifling Affair you  
 may form an Idea how their more important Concerns are  
 Conducted ; which, from all I can learn, are exactly carried *Raghoba's*  
 on in the same manner. The Durbar is at present Engaged *daughter*  
 in preparing for the Wedding of Ragobahs Daughter,  
 which is to be Celebrated the end of this Month ; after  
 which, it is imagined, Sacaram<sup>1</sup> will use His Endeavours to  
 get Him out of the Hands of Naron Row ; and the Situa- *Events in*  
 tion of Affairs in Hindustan seem to concur in Assisting *Hindu-*  
 Him in His Designs ; indeed some Doubt whether they are *stan*  
 not brought into this Dilemma thro' His Secret Intrigues.  
 Under the 27th Ultio I Advised you of the Dispute between  
 their Commanding Officers in those Parts, Vissajee Punt  
 and Tookajee Holker pressed Japtah Caun<sup>2</sup> Rohillah  
 being made Vizir ; this enraged the King and made Madjee  
 Scindy seperate Himself and Forces some distance from  
 them. The King with His Forces, joined by twelve thou-

1. *Diary*, January 16, 1773.

2. Zabita Khan, see Appendix No. 23.



sand of Sujah Dowlahs Men, marched out of Dhilly, and Encamped under the Walls, determined to oppose their views with respect to the Rohillah. They Attacked him, and He was under the necessity of retreating again into The Town. But by advices, received in Twenty two Days from thence, He soon after quitted it,<sup>1</sup> crossed the Jumnah, which washes the Walls of it, and joined Madjee Scindy; they both wrote Sujah Dowlah for Assistance, and He crossed the Gunga with His forces, joined by such of our Troops as He had with Him, and met the King and Madjee Scindy, who altogether made 80,000 Horse, besides Foot. They have Marched and recrossed the Jumnah and surrounded Dhilly with Tookajee Holker, Vissajee Punt Benewalah and Japtah Caun in it. This Intelligence is, I believe, true, and mostly confirmed by a Person of Veracity, who further told me that Sujah Dowlah had wrote<sup>2</sup> their Officers, Vissajee Punt &ca, acted a most Treacherous part by Attacking the King and wanting to make Rohillah Vizir Contrary to their former Agreements; That He<sup>3</sup> had been long Vizir<sup>4</sup> and with their Consent was also their Friend; and therefore gave them Notice that, unless they relieved their Present Officers and People, He could not say what might be the Consequences; the King and He would wait their answer before they proceeded to any Violent measures. This news has put the Durbar into much Consternation, and Naron Row has Issued orders to the Different Districts for His Troops being ready, which before were Ordered to be Discharged; but the Commanding officer is not yet appointed. Sacaram thinks a Person of Consequence should go, and pushes the naming Ragobah;

*Shuja-ud-  
daula's  
letter*

*Dismay  
in Poona*

1-2. Apparently a false rumour, see Appendix No. 23.

3. Shuja-ud-daula.

4. "The Nawab of Audh was the hereditary Vazir of the empire." (Keene, *History of India*, I, 185)

this is much against the Inclination of Naron Row. Who it will be, is uncertain; nor will it, I believe, be decided untill after the Wedding.

I have this morning been informed that Moodajee and *The* Sabajee Bouncello, who have been some time Contending *Bhonsles* for the Government, are now united; and It's said, notwithstanding the late appearance of a quarrel, they are connected with the Nizam and mean coming this way. This Intelligence was received Yesterday, and Last Night debated at the Durbar; and I am told it's Determined that Naron Row take the Field as soon as the Wedding is over.

Under Charge of four Sepoys I send Your Honor &ca *Deserters* four Seamen, John Davis, John Gill, Gerrart Smith and Andrew Anderson; they were upon the Broach Expedition, and afterwards stationed on board the Surat Cruizers. They came three days ago, were sorry for what they had done, and ready to return themselves up, but hoped they should be Pardoned. I have as usual assured them they will not be punished.

Poona, 18th Janry. 1773.

I remain with Respect,

HONBLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

**Tuesday 19th.** Early this morning received a Letter *Treaty* from the Hon'ble the Governor, advising me of Affairs *with* being settled with Futtysing,<sup>1</sup> and therefore I might be the *Fateh* more deliberate in my Negotiations here. Tho' I am *Singh* Convinced this Court wish much we had not Broach, yet the Situation of their Affairs to the Northward, with the Disputes in the Family and Ministry added to the Wedding of Ragobahs Daughter, as set forth in my Address of Yesterday, will prevent them for a time (whatever their inten-

1. *Diary*, January 6, 1773.

tions may be) from making any Offers that can be accepted.

*Peace in Delhi* **Saturday 23rd.** This afternoon I am informed Letters have been received from Vissajee Punt in Hindostan, mentioning matters are accommodated with the King; that he has invested Japtah Caun with the Sirpaw of Buxy,<sup>1</sup> and remitted the usual Fee Collected from the Jentoo Pilgrims going to Prague and Vanares; and also given up to the Morattahs the District of Coriganabad.<sup>2</sup> That Sujah Dowlah had collected his whole Army together, and it was supposed with an Intention to prevent this Courts Forces from taking possession of their new acquired Territory. This Intelligence is certainly true (notwithstanding what is mentioned under the 16th); for one of the Letters was read to the Linguist.

*Vessel released* **Sunday 24th.** Received from the Chitnees the Durbars Order for the Delivery of Monachjee Moody's Vessel detained at Anjinwell; but as the Subedar of that place will be here to the Wedding in a few days, it will be saving time to keep the Order till He arrives, and get His immediate Dispatch for Her release. As the Cargoe is suspected to belong to People not under our Protection, It is to be Detained, till the Property is Proved.

1. Buxee, a military paymaster. Under the Muhammadan emperors of India the word *bakshi* was applied to an officer high in military administration, whose duties sometimes, if not habitually, embraced those of Paymaster General, as well as in a manner of Commander-in-Chief or Chief of the Staff. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. The districts of Kora and Allahabad. Kora is a town in the Fatehpur District, about 100 miles north-west of Allahabad. It was the capital of a Sarkar or District in Akbar's time. Kara, about 40 miles north-west of Allahabad, is a small town in that district, which played a considerable historical part in earlier ages. Some of the early English documents speak of 'Cora' only, but the territory is often described as 'Corah and Currah.' (Smith, *The Oxford History of India*, p. 503, Note 1; and Strachey, *Rohilla Wars*, p. 37, Note)

**Monday 25th.** This Afternoon Dadah Row, Mahomed *Poona* Ally Cauns Vackeel, informed me that He had heard this *displeased* Court was much Displeased with Futtysing for having made a Peace with Us; and Sacaram Bappoo Yesterday wrote Him That He had Advised Him a Month ago not to Compromize matters with Us, as He was Treating about Broach here; notwithstanding which He had entered into an Agreement without acquainting or having the approbation of this Durbar, which as a Servant He should not have done; they therefore were by no means satisfied, and Hinted to Him They Expected He would break it. I asked Dadah Row if He was clear in what He told me. He said He was certain Sacaram had wrote; But He would enquire more particularly into the Purport of the Letter, and acquaint me with it some time to-morrow. This Intelligence being of the utmost Consequence, Determined to advise my Superiors thereof as soon as it's confirmed.

**Thursday 26th.** Early this morning Ramajee Chit- *Discus-* nees paid me a Visit by Naron Rows Order to acquaint me *sion with* that, on His having Notice of our taking Broach, He had *R. Chitnis* sent the Chitnees and Vissajee Punt to tell me He had no Objections to Our Chastizing the Nabob for His Behaviour to Us; but as this Court had pretentions to all the Country in the Deckan [*Deccan*], the Place must of course be given up to them. I replied what He now said, was by no means the Purport of what Passed between Him, Vissajee Punt and me on the 29th of November, but between Him and me on the 3rd Janry and at the Durbar on the 6th; to which I then gave a sufficient Answer; therefore all this was nothing to the Purpose. If he had anything new to say on this Subject, I desired He would speak. He then told in plain Terms Naron Row was desirous of having Broach, and that He was ready to pay our Expences. I answered He had before told me this, when I informed Him, if

Naron Row staid<sup>1</sup> till we had settled matters with Futtysing. He would never have it; since when, I had not heard a word about it; but now We had Accommodated matters with Futtysing, His Master had opened His Eyes and wanted Us to give it Him. He [*Ramaji Chitnis*] said the sole reason why they had not lately made any Offers, was their having a great deal of Business in hand and the preparations for the Wedding. I told Him I knew it was no such thing; that they with Pleasure saw the Dispute between Futtysing and Us,<sup>2</sup> that We might be weakened and Futtysing more Obedient; that this was their true motive I had certain proof; for, to my knowledge, it was only two Days ago that they wrote Futtysing He had acted very Imprudently in making Peace with Us, contrary to their Advice, and even Hinted to Him they Expected He would break it; and on His Denying the Durbar had wrote such a Letter, I told Him [*Ramaji Chitnis*] it probably might be true; But one of their Ministers had, which was the same thing; for He would not have presumed to Have done it without the Durbars Consent; and if this was the Case, they had better be open and at once Break with Us. He assured me it was not their Intention to quarrel with Us, but it was Naron Rows Request that I would write my Superiors and procure their Final Resolutions about Broach. I told Him I was clear the Hon'ble Company would not hear about the Expences; therefore my writing would be to no purpose; however as Naron Row had requested, I would write; and hinted to him [*Ramaji Chitnis*] if His

1. Delayed.

2. Compare with the parallel passage on January 28, 1773, "I told him I knew it was no such thing; that they with pleasure saw the dispute between Fateh Singh and us, and rejoiced to see us cutting one another's throats, that we might be weakened and Fateh Singh (might be made) more obedient (to the Poona Court)."

Master was really desirous of the Place in question, and my Hon'ble Employers be brought to part with it, an Exchange<sup>1</sup> would be the only method I imagined that ever would be Accepted ; for I have not yet Ventured to tell them plainly our wishes, knowing nothing can be accomplished while the Durbar is so much Divided, and the Prince not His own Master. In the evening Dadah Row waited on me and Confirmed what He yesterday told me, and added that Ballajee Naique Beriah, Futtysings Vackeel, had also wrote to the same Purport.

**Wednesday 27th.** Received a message From Ramajee *R. Chitnis* Chitnees to advise me of His having informed Naron Row of the Purport of Our Conversation Yesterday, and that He would in the morning come and acquaint me with His Answer ; this determined me to defer writing to Bombay till to-morrow.

**Thursday 28th.** The Chitnees early this morning *Renewed* waited on me, and told me He had acquainted the Durbar *pleadings* with what passed at our last meeting ; also repeated the Pretentions this Government had to the Country, and said Naron Row hoped, Considering the long Friendship which had subsisted between Us, He should have the preference to Futtysing. I gave Him the same Answer as before, and requested to know if the message He sent me privately Yesterday was true, which He Confirmed ; but as I mean to set forth every Particular of it, in my Address to the Board, I shall not mention it Here. In the Evening Ramajee Chitnees sent for the Linguist, and informed Him He had told Naron Row that I had promised to write Bombay, with which He seemed satisfied. The Chitnees added *Dissensions in Poona* He was sorry to see the Durbar in such an unsettled State : the Prince no will of His own, the Ministers Divided, and of Course their Resolutions wavering and Contradictory ; and

1. *Diary*, September 29, 1772.

from their present behaviour much feared the two States would not long remain in Friendship. Agreeable to the foregoing, Addressed the Board the following Letter.

*Letter to* To

*Bombay*

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*The Delhi*

*compro-  
mise*

I addressed you last the 18th, on the 23rd in the Evening I was informed Letters were received from Vissajee Punt at Dhilly, mentioning that matters were accommodated with the King, that Japtah Caun [*Zabita Khan*] Rohillah was appointed Buxy, and that the King had remitted the usual Fee Collected at Prague from the Jentoo Pilgrims, had also given up to the Morattahs the District of Coraginabad;<sup>1</sup> these Letters, it's certain, have been received, as one to this Purport was read to the Linguist.

*Vessel*

*restored*

On the 24th, Ramajee Chitnees sent me an Order for the Delivery of the Vessel belonging to Monackjee Moody, detained at Anginwell; but as the Subedar of that Place will be here in a few Days to the Wedding, Judged it would be saving time to keep the Order untill He comes, and procure His immediate Dispatch for Her release, which as soon as obtained shall be transmitted. But the Cargoe they will not Deliver up untill the Property is proved.

*Memoran-  
dums*

There are four more memorandums<sup>2</sup> delivered me by the President; that, regarding the Coolies of Caranjar, they have promised; but to the other three Vissajee Punt has started Objections, saying they depended on the Adjustment of fourteen Articles, delivered in Governor Crommelins<sup>3</sup> time. These Articles were Settled when I was last

1. The districts of Kora and Allahabad.
2. *Diary*, January 6, 1773, and Appendix No. 14.
3. Appendix No. 24.

Here, and the Order for the Payment of the 30,915-3-50 [Rupees] particularly mentions it. But to prove the falsity of Vissajees Assertion it is necessary I should have both the Articles and Order to produce ; therefore request You will please to send them me. On the 25th, Dadah Row, Mahomed Ally Caun's Vackeel,<sup>1</sup> informed me He had heard this Court was much Displeased with Futtysing for having made Peace with Us ; that Sacaram Bappoo had wrote Him the Day before that, Contrary to His Advice to Him a Month ago, He had entered into a Composition with Us ; and this without acquainting or having the approbation of this Durbar. They therefore were not by any means satisfied, and Hinted as much as if they expected He would again break it. I asked Dadah Row if He was clear in His Intelligence, as I Judged it necessary Your Honor & ca should be Advised of it. He told me He was certain Sacaram had wrote ; but to be sure of the purport of the Letter He desired I would defer doing it till the next Day, when He would again wait on me. He accordingly came and Confirmed the above, adding withall that Ballajee Naique Beriah, Futtysings Vackeel, had also wrote. The above morning I had also a Visit from Ramajee Chitnees with Naron Rows Compliments, setting forth that, on His having notice of Our taking Broach, He had sent Ramajee Chitnees and Vissajee Punt to acquaint me that He had no Objection to our Chastising the Nabob for His ill Behaviour ; But as He had Pretentions to all the Country, the Place should be Delivered to them. I answered this was not the Purport of what passed between Him, Vissajee Punt & me on the 29th November, but passed between Him and me the 3d. Janry and at the Durbar on the 6th ; but all this was nothing to the Purpose. I desired to know what He had now to

*The  
vakil's  
informa-  
tion*

*Discus-  
sions with  
R. Chitnis*

1. The Vakil of Mahomed Ali Khan, Nawab of the Carnatic.



say. He told me Naron Row was desirous of Broach and was ready to Pay Our Expences or whatever Futtysing had offered. I replied He before told me this, when I acquainted Him, if Naron Row waited untill We had settled terms with Futtysing, He would never get it ; since when, I had not heard a Word about it ; but now We had accommodated matters, His Master had opened His Eyes and Wanted Us to give it up to Him. He said it was owing to the Hurry of Business they had in hand and the preparations for the Wedding prevented it. I told Him I knew it was no such thing ; that they with pleasure saw the Dispute between Futtysing and Us, and rejoiced to see us cutting one anothers throats, that We might be weakened, and Futtysing more Obedient ; and that this was the true Reason I had certain proof ; for to my knowledge it was only two Days ago that they wrote Futtysing He had acted very improperly in making Peace with Us, contrary to their Advice and particularly as their Servant in doing it without their Consent or approbations, and even intimated they Expected He would break it. He denied the Durbars having wrote any such Letter. I told him it might be probable the Durbar had not wrote, but one of their Ministers Had, which was the same thing ; for He would not have presumed to do it without their Consent ; and if this was the Case, they had better be open and tell Us at once they meant to Break with us. He Assured me it was not their Intention to break down with Us, but it was Naron Rows Request now I would write my Superiors and Procure their Answer. I did not venture to tell Him plainly our Wishes, knowing nothing can be accomplished while the Durbar is so much Divided, and the Prince not His own Master. However I told Him I was clear the Company would not hear about the Expences for a Place of that Importance, and hinted an Exchange as the most likely means to get it. But I

would, agreeable to Naron Rows Request, write about it, tho' I believed it would be to little Purpose. The foregoing was intended to be sent away last Night, but Ramajee Chitnees late in the Evening sent to Advice me He had acquainted His Master with what had passed between Us, and in the morning would wait on me with His Answer. But *S. Bapu's* privately informed me, when He carried my Answer to *anger* Naron Row—Sacaram Bappoo, Nana Furnees, Crust Row Balal, Myput Row and Madajee Punt being present—Sacaram flew into the most Violent Rage on hearing it, asked him how He could, being a Servant of this Sircar, bring such a message as to talk about an Exchange of Places when We would have Disposed of it to Futtysing, and Directed Him to return Immediately and acquaint me if this was our Boasted Friendship, it was not worth the having; and if we Intended to break it, we might; they were prepared. Ramajee asked Naron Row if He should wait on me with the above answer. He replied Yes. Ramajee said, it being late, would do it in the morning. However *N. Rao's* in the Evening Naron Row Again sent for Him, and told *instructions* Him not to say anything to me of what had happened before with Sacaram Bappoo, but only to request I would use my Endeavours to get the Place delivered up to Him. Early this morning Ramajee Chitnees, agreeable to His Message last Night, came again; repeated the Pretensions Naron Row had to the Country; and hoped, Considering the long Friendship that Had subsisted between Us, He should have the preference to Futtysing on the Terms before mentioned. I returned the same Answer as I did before, that I would write, tho' I believed it to no purpose; and asked him if the message He privately sent me Yesterday was true. He said Yes; and also asked him why the Durbar would not send for me, if they had anything particular to say, that I might Answer them Face to Face and save

the trouble of carrying messages to and fro. He too would be secure from blame. He said it was not their Custom ; that, when things were near a Conclusion, they then would send for me. In the Afternoon Ramajee sent for the Linguist, told Him He had acquainted Naron Row that I had promised to write Bombay, with which He seemed satisfied ; and further added that He was sorry to see the Durbar in such a State ; the Prince no will of His own, the Ministers Divided, and of Course their Resolutions are wavering and Contradictory : and from their Behaviour much feared the two States would not long remain in Friendship. I have been thus Particular, that Your Honor &ca may be fully apprized of all that has passed ; and can only say from Sacarams Present Behaviour, who seems now to have the Sole Powers, He is determined to create a Disturbance. His real motive I cannot fathom, unless it is to get Ragobah into the Field, or apprehensive of our Entering into a League with Futtysing ; however at any rate He is much Our Enemy ; and I verily believe, had Madah Row died before my arrival Here, they would never have consented to my remaining ; for ever since, Sacaram has been raising Difficulties, particularly to a place of Residence ; for tho' I have been desired to pitch upon a spot, He has ever started Objections, and it has been over-ruled. I do not think they will venture to Break with Us. Yet should they remain in the same Temper and Continue to Persist in their unaccountable behaviour, nothing can be accomplished. It is therefore my humble opinion my withdrawing to Bombay, at least for a time, will be of service, and convince them we are not to be frightened with their Blustering, and probably may bring them to reason from Considering the ill consequences that may result by a Disunion with Us. Having thus given Your Honor every information in my Power, I request You will Favour

*Dissen-  
sions in  
Poona*

*S. Bapu's  
opposition*

*Plan to  
withdraw  
from  
Poona*

me with Particular Directions and Instructions for my future guidance, flattering myself my Conduct hitherto will meet Your Approbation.

I am given to understand I shall be invited to the *Wedding* Wedding of Ragobahs Daughter, and that some presents *presents* will be necessary, but as there is not now time for Your Orders thereon, I shall venture to make them, taking care to be as frugal as possible.<sup>1</sup>

Poonah, 28th January, 1773.

I remain very Respectfully,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

**Friday 29th.** Timothy Smith, soldier, arrived here *Deserter* from Surat, and requested to be sent to Bombay on a Promise of Pardon.

**Saturday 30th.** This Evening Naron Row sent *Invited to* Madah Row Sadasew to invite me to the Wedding of *wedding* Ragobahs Daughter, and at His going away made Him a present, which I could not avoid doing, it being always usual on these Occasions.

**Sunday 31st.** I am informed Letters have been *Raid into* received from Tookajee Holker and Vissajee Punt Bene- *Oudh* wallah, acquainting the Durbar that they were eight Coase on their way to Faruckabad, whither they were going to Collect Tribute; and afterwards they meant to March against Sujah Dowlah;<sup>2</sup> they had pressed the King to accompany them in this Expedition, which He had Declined, but said He would Order His Buxy<sup>3</sup>, Japtah Caun, to Join them with all His Force; however they intended if possible to get the King's Son with them. A private Letter from *Shuja-ud-* a Person in Sujah Dowlahs Army mentions that 1,200 *daula*

1. Compare with entry on December 2, 1772.
2. Appendix No. 22.
3. His Commander-in-Chief, Zabita Khan.

Europeans with five Battalions of Sepoys had joined Sujah Dowlah from Bengal, besides all those that were at Prague and Chemadah,<sup>1</sup> with a field Train of Artillery, and were all at the time the Letter came away at Bengalah. This also mentions Sujah Dowlah having put all the Infantry under the Command of the English, but had reserved the Horse, which were about 30,000, to Himself. Their Intention was to March to the Banks of the Gunga, and there wait the Arrival of the Morratahs. Sujah Dowlah has placed Express Camels all the way from Poonah to Lucknore [Lucknow] at ten Coase Distance from each other, by which

Shah  
Alam

He can have Intelligence from hence in fifteen Days. By which I can learn, the King, finding that Sujah Dowlah could not Join Him, immediately after His Defeat by the Morattahs, was Obligated to make Peace with them upon their own Terms,<sup>2</sup> but with an Intention of going off to Sujah Dowlah the first Opportunity, which is the reason He has Refused to accompany Tookajee Holker and Vissajee Punt Benewalah.

Accounts

The Disbursements being closed for January are agreeable to the following Extracts:—

Extract of Disbursements on Account of the Residency at Poonah for the Month of January 1773.

To Factory Charges as per Acct. at large	...	488-,-,-
„ Provision Money to Sundries from 1st to 31st	...	426-1-,-
„ Charges Extraordinary	...	108-2-65
„ Ramjee Adojee Linguist Advanced Him	...	150-,-,-
„ Stable Charges	...	34-2-10
„ Garrison Charges...	...	2-2-50
„ Account Presents...	...	290-,-,-

Rupees ... 1,500-,-,-25

Poonah, Jany 31st, 1773.

Errors Excepted.

1. Allahabad and Shamsabad; the latter town is situated 18 miles north-west of Farrukhabad. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XXII, 29)

2. *Diary*, January 23, 1773.

## February 1773.

**Monday 1st.** Early this morning the Durbar sent *Raighur* for the Linguist and acquainted Him Many of the Families *refugees* of the Sepoys that were in the RyeGurr<sup>1</sup> had gone to Bankoot<sup>2</sup> and taken our Protection; as they were servants of this Sircar, they desired I would write for their being Delivered. The Linguist informed them the People would not be given up without a Letter from the Governor, on which they desired I would write and procure the Governors Order for their Delivery; when the Linguist returned, I sent Him again to inform them I did not look upon the Families that had taken our Protection to be their Servants, nor could they by any means be esteemed such. However as they had requested a Letter from me, I would write to the Governor, but it would be necessary for them to write also.

**Tuesday 2nd.** The Chitnees sent to request the Letter *Non-committal letter* to the Governor, which I Delivered, to the following purport; after setting forth the Durbars Plea and acquainting Him my sole motive for writing was to Comply with the earnest Desire of Naron Row, I submitted to His Superior Judgment, whether the Plea could be admitted, and Women and Children be esteemed servants of the Sircar.

Late this Evening received my Superiors Commands of *Letter from Bombay* the 28th Ultimo as follows:—

1. Raighur, Sivaji's principal residence. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 159)

2. Bankot or Fort Victoria, a coastal station at the mouth of the Savitri river, 73 miles south-east from Bombay. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, VI, 383)

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR,  
Resident at the Morattah Durbar at  
Poonah.

Sir,

*Treaty with Fat Singh* As we have already advised You of the Success of Our Arms against the Town of Broach, We deem it also necessary to acquaint You for Your Information that Futtysing with his Forces, who for some time had lain before the Place, has at length Decamped, the Chief Factors having Compromised matters with Him ; & by an Agreement which has been mutually signed, He is to receive the same share of the Revenues, as He enjoied before We took the Place.<sup>1</sup>

Your Letters of the 7th and 18th Instant have duly came to hand.

Bombay Castle, 28th January, 1773.

We are Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

JOHN WATSON

DANIEL DRAPER

BRICE FLETCHER

BENJAMIN JERVIS

WILLIAM TAYLER

NATHANAEL STACKHOUSE

ROBERT GARDEN

*The wedding* **Thursday 4th.** This afternoon Naron Row, accompanied by Ragobah and all the Ministers, went to meet the Intended Bridegroom. He is Son of Baboojee Naique Sadasew, who was formerly a Principal Officer of the Sow Rajahs.<sup>2</sup>

*Deserters* **Friday 5th.** This Day arrived here four Seamen, Deserters from His Majestys Ships at Bombay, by name Thomas Aldrige, John Dalby, William Phlllips and Thomas Hook.

1. *Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 190 and Aitchison's *Treaties* (1876), IV, 176.

2. Sahu was the son of Sambhaji, who was Sivaji's eldest son.

**Saturday 6th.** Two Soldiers arrived this morning *Soldiers* from Broach.

**Sunday 7th.** This Evening the Wedding between *The* Ragobahs Daughter and Baboojee Naiques Son was Celebrated at the Durbar, but without those Demonstrations of Joy usual amongst the Jentoos on such Occasions (except firing some Cannon), owing it's said to the Disgust between the Uncle and Nephew.

**Wednesday 10th.** This Evening Naron Row sent to *Visit to* acquaint me He was ready to receive my Compliments on *N. Rao* Account of the Wedding, went accordingly and made him the Usual Present; finding Ragobah was not present, I desired the Chitnees to ask Naron Row if I had His permission to wait on His Uncle (for without it there is no admission). He said it was then too late, but to-morrow or next Day I might; and accordingly Ordered Hurry Punt (one of His Party) to enquire and let me know when it would be Convenient.

Received my Superiors Commands of the 4th Instant, *Letter*  
to which a due Obedience shall be shewn. *from*  
To *Bombay*

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR,

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at

Poonah.

Sir,

Understanding that it may be in Your Power to *Orders for*  
Contract for the Delivery of the Quantity of Batty<sup>1</sup> We are *batty*

1. The word batty, for what is more generally called paddy, is or was commonly used by the English in Southern and Western India. Paddy is rice in the husk, but it is also applied to growing rice. "In Ireland Paddy makes riots, in Bengal ryots make paddy." (Hobson-Jobson)



in want of, being 4,000 Morahs,<sup>1</sup> on more Reasonable Terms than are procureable at this Place, We therefore Direct that You use You [Your] Endeavours to this Purpose ; one half of it must be white Batty, and the other of the Rashed<sup>2</sup> or mixed sort, the whole to be Delivered by the middle of June next; but previous to Your Contracting, You are to send Us the earliest notice of the Price at which you may be able to agree for it, and wait our Answer ; the Prices at which We have been offered here, are Rupees 19 $\frac{3}{4}$  for the Rashed Batty and 20 $\frac{3}{4}$  for the white Sort. Bombay Castle, 4th Feby. 1773.

We are Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

BRICE FLETCHER

DANIEL DRAPER

WILLIAM TAYLER

BENJAMIN JERVIS

WILLIAM SHAW

NATHANAEL STACKHOUSE

ROBERT GARDEN

JOHN WATSON

*Letter to* Wrote the Hon'ble the President and Council, and  
*Bombay* Dispatched the Letter accordingly.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR,  
President and Governor &ca Council at

Bombay.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

*Raid into* On the 2d Instant Your Commands of the 28th Ultimo  
*Oudh* came to hand. I am Informed, Letters have been received from Tookajee Holker and Vissajee Punt in Hindostan to the Durbar, advising them that they had come to a Resolution of going to Farukabad to Collect their Tribute,

1. Moorah is a measure used in the sale of batty in Bombay.  
"At Bacaim the *mura* of batee contains 3 *candis*" A candy is 500 lbs. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. Unthreshed.

and were on their way eight Coase from Dhilly, after which they meant to March against Sujah Dowlah. Japtah Caun, Buxy, with the Kings Forces had Joined them, but the King had Declined going, purporting to stay in Dhilly, however they intended if possible geting the Kings Son with them. A Private Letter from a Person in Sujah Dowlahs Army *Shuja-ud-* mentions that 1,200 Europeans with five Battalions of *doula* Sepoys had joined Sujah Dowlah from Bengal, besides those at Prague and Chemadah, and were at the time the Letter came away at Bengalah. It further adds that Sujah Dowlah had put His Footmen and Train under the Command of the English, reserving to Himself only His Horse, being about 30,000; they intend marching to the Banks of the Gangah and wait for the Morattahs; a Confirmation of this news may be daily expected. *Fat* It seems Futtysing has wrote Sacaram Bappoo in Answer *Singh* to His Letter, sent some time ago as already Advised Your Honour &ca, that, finding that He was not able to cope with the English, had Concluded a Peace with them, and in consequence withdrawn all His Troops.

Under charge of Four Sepoys, proceed three Soldiers: *Deserters* Fredrick Heyer, Hendrick Maybrook and Timothy Smith; the two former Deserted from Broach, the latter from Surat; they all came to me of their own Accord, desiring they might be sent to Bombay if they could be Pardoned, which I have taken the Liberty of Assuring them. Enclosed *Poona* Your Honor &ca will receive an Order for the Coolies of *orders* Caranjar to remove their Fishing Stakes, also one on the Havaldar of Anjinwell for the Delivery of the Vessel belonging to Monacjee Moody with a Letter From Trimbuck Ve Nique to Him to inforce that Order; this I procured to prevent Delays, as it seems the Havaldar does not come to the Wedding as I was before Informed. Your Commands *Batty* of the 4th are Just come to Hands, and I will Advise You

as soon as possible the lowest Prices at which Batty can be Contracted for Here.

POONAH, 10th Febry, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

*Batty contractors* **Thursday 11th.** Conformable to my Superiors Orders received Yesterday, sent to enquire if it was possible to Contract for Batty here ; and find the only two Men, there is any likelihood of Contracting with for the Quantity wanted, are gone to a Wedding at some Distance from Poonah and will not return these two or three Days.

*Letter from Bombay* **Friday 12th.** Received a Letter from Mr. Secretary Skipp under the 6th Instant.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at

Poonah.

Sir,

*Deserters and boat* The Enclosed two Papers Contain the Discriptions of four Men who have Deserted from the Kings Ships ; the Hon'ble the President and Council have been pleased to direct that You use Your Endeavours to get them Delivered up, The Admiral having promised they shall not be Punished ; two of these People carried off a Boat belonging to the Northumberland, which, it is wished, might also be returned.

Bombay Castle, 6th February, 1773.

I am, Sir,  
Your most Humble Servt,  
GEORGE SKIPP,  
Secry.

**Saturday 13th.** Sent a Memorandum to the Chitnees, *R. Chitnis* and Desired Orders might be Issued to the Governor of *informed* Caranjar and Bellapore for the Delivery of the Northumberland's Boat, if She can be found; which He promised to procure.

**Sunday 14th.** The Mucherdum of Pattamars *informed* me this Evening last Night a pair of Cossids arrived *Rumours of war* from Vissajee Punt at Dhilly with Letters to the Durbar, acquainting them He had Ordered about 7,000 Men to Etava<sup>1</sup> Fort on the other side the Jumnah, whence they had an Engagement with the English Forces under Sujah Dowlahs Son, in which the Morattahs were worsted and lost about 1,000 Men with two Elephants; also that the English Consisted of three Battalions of Europeans and thirteen of Sepoys; and Sujah Dowlahs Son had about 25,000 Horse. I shall wait till this is confirmed before I advise my Superiors, as Reports of this kind have frequently been in Town and as often Contradicted.

**Monday 15th.** The Mozamdar<sup>2</sup> of Basein (who is one *Batty* of the Persons most likely to be able to Contract for the Batty) being come to Town, I sent to request to see Him. He accordingly came and tells me Untill the Subedar Trimback Ve Nique and Himself go into the Conkon, it's not in His Power to settle the Price, but Assures me the quantity of Batty wanted shall be reserved.

**Tuesday 16th.** Ganjudy Caun had his Audience of *Ghazi-ud-* leave at the Durbar last Night. His sudden Departure, I *din*

1. Etawah was a famous banking and commercial centre, but in the 18th century it suffered much from Rohilla and afterwards from Maratha raids. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XII, 47)

2. Munsudbar was originally used to indicate a quasi-feudal dependant of the Moghul Government, who had territory assigned to him on condition of his supplying a number of horses. In many cases the title was but nominal, and often it was assumed without warrant. (Hobson-Jobson)

am told, is owing to the Nizam,<sup>1</sup> who has wrote to Desire He may be Dispatched, being apprehensive of Him,<sup>2</sup> as He is legal Heir to the Subaship of the Deccan. His Father Ganjudy Caun was Nizam Alli Mulucks eldest Son, but being Vizir to the King at Dhilly when His Father Died, the next Son, Nizar Jung, got the Subahship, and after Him the Present Nizam.

*Restoration of boat* **Thursday 18th.** The Chitnees sent me the Orders requested for the Delivery of the Boat carried from His Majestys Ship by the Deserters, which I purpose sending away with the four Men, as soon as I can procure an *Batty* Answer about the Batty. This Evening the Shetchew,<sup>3</sup> Anant Row, who is one of the Rajahs Ministers, being come to Town (and is the only one here besides the Mozamdar of Baseen that can supply any quantity of Batty), I sent my Compliments to Him, and desired He would inform me what His Price was, and How much He had to spare. He returned His Compliments and said He wished to see me before He came to any Determination; therefore Intend waiting on Him to-morrow, and immediately after acquaint the Hon'ble President and Council with the Result.

**Friday 19th.** Sent this Morning to the Shetchew to know if He was at Leasure to receive my Visit; but He returned for Answer, this being a Fast Day, He could not possibly see me; and whenever it was Convenient and a

1. Nizam Ali, the fifth son of Nizam-ul-Mulk, became Subadar of the Deccan in 1761, 13 years after his father's death. This triumph over his rivals and that of Muhamad Ali sounded the death-knell of French imperial aspirations in India, and paved the way for the supremacy of British rule in India.

2. Nizam Ali had good reason to fear Ghazi-ud-din, who had proved himself a successful, unscrupulous intriguer at Delhi. See Appendix No. 20.

3. Punt Suchew was the new title replacing that of Soornees. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 199 and 225)

proper day, would send to acquaint me. As it may, from the general Dilitoryness of these people with their Fasts and Unlucky Days, be some time before I shall have an Answer from this Man, Determined to send away the Deserters and Advise my Superiors with what has passed between me and the Mozamdar about the Batty; and accordingly addressed them the following Letter. *Letter to Bombay*

To

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council of

Bombay

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

My last Respect waited on You the 10th Instant, and *Reference* on the 12th came to Hand Mr. Secretary Skipp's Letter. *to letters* As the Receipt of my Address under the 28th Ultio is not acknowledged in either that or Your Commands of the 4th I have Enclosed its Duplicate.

I have made the best enquiry I can about the Batty, *Batty* and find there are only two Persons that are able to Contract for the quantity Your Honor &ca want; the one is the Mozamdar of Basseen, and the other the Shetchew, one of the Rajahs Ministers. He Commands four or Five Forts on the Top of the Gotts, and Great part of the Country along the River Pen and some at Choul [*Chaul*] belongs to Him. They have both untill a few Days ago been engaged in Weddings; the first I have seen, but He told me the Price cannot be fixed untill the Subedar and He goes to Basseen, whither they will set out in four or five days. He has promised me the quantity wanted shall be reserved, and will Advise me the Price as soon as settled; or Your Honour &ca, may fix it with Him at Basseen. The latter I have sent to; but on Account of their Fasts and Unlucky Days, have not yet seen; however I am in hopes

of doing it in a Day or Two, and will Advise You with the Result.

*Restoration of  
boat  
Deserters*

Enclosed You will please to receive two Orders on the Subedars of Caranjar and Basseen for the Delivery of the Boat belonging to His Majesty, if found. The four Deserters, by name John Aldrige, William Phillips, Thomas Hook and John Dalby, are now sent under care of Eight Sepoys. I have, agreeable to the Secretarys Letter, assured them of the Admirals Pardon, with which they are Satisfied and return with seeming willingness. Some Days ago I also sent under care of four Sepoys two Seamen, William Bradshaw and Richard Longly, who had Deserted from the Eagle Snow.

POONAH, 19th February, 1773.

I remain with respect,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRS,  
Your most Obedt. and Humble Servt.

P. S. the Charges of Provision while here and the sending the Deserters belonging to His Majesty to Bombay amount to Rs. 26.

*Undeserved blame*

**Sunday 21th.** Received the Select Committees Commands of the 16th, as entered Hereafter. It is with unfeigned Concern I Observe they Adjudge me so highly deserving Censure both with Respect to neglect of my Hon'ble Employers Interest and Inattention to the Instructions given me at my Departure from Bombay. However I can with the utmost satisfaction lay my Hand upon my heart and acquit myself of inattentionally doing either, as I am Conscious to have done all in my Power to forward the Hon. Companys Views; for their Interest has ever been my Chief and only Study; and tho' I have not been able to obtain my Part of the wished for Cession,<sup>1</sup> yet

1. The Session of Salsette, Bassein and Karanja.

it is not owing to any neglect of mine, but to the Misfortune of Madah Rows Death and, since that Period, to the unsteady state of the Durbar, which during the Reign of the Present weak Prince nothing but a Spirited Behaviour on our Parts will be able to keep within Bounds; however, notwithstanding the very severe Censure of the Committee, I make no Doubt but to be able in my answer to their Letter to give such Reasons for my Conduct, as will Induce both them and my Hon'ble Company to acquit me of the two very heavy Charges laid against me.

Select Committee.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at

POONAH.

*Letter  
from  
Bombay*

Sir,

When you set out for Poonah, You were particularly *The Select* instructed by the Board to Communicate to us, the Select *Committee* Committee, all matters relative to the Points which it was hoped would be accomplished by Your Residence at the Morattah Durbar. The last Letters You Addressed to the Board, particularly that of the 28th Ultimo, Chiefly related to those Points. We are therefore much surprized you should so far forget the Instructions you were Ordered to Observe as not to Address them to Us; and We direct that in future You mention no matter in Your Addresses to the Board, which may be any ways improper to become publick.

You were also Instructed to Communicate to the Bengal *Madras* and Madrass Presidencies any Intelligence you might be *com-* able to procure respecting the Hon'ble Companys Interests *plaints* at these Places; this was a very material Part of Your Instructions and ought to have been very particularly attended to. The Gentlemen of the Select Committee at



Madraſs, in a letter to Us, dated from thence the 28th December, mention that they had heard of Your arrival at Poonah long before from the Nabob, but that they had received no Letter from You. We ſuppoſe, as You have not wrote Us in any of Your Letters to the Contrary, You have alſo omitted to announce Your Arrival to the *Mostyn's* Gentlemen at Calcutta. Theſe Inſtances of inattention for *remiss-* the Paſt We muſt Condemn; and we again Direct for Your *ness* future Conduct that you be more obſervant of the Inſtructions with which You were furniſhed, and more attentive to the Interests of the Company Committed to Your Charge by Conſtantly Advizing the Gentlemen of Bengal and Madraſs any motions or Deſigns of the Morattahs, which may even Diſtantly Affect the Important Interests of the Company at thoſe Places or the Interests of any of the Country Powers who may be intimately Connected with thoſe Preſidencies; and We recommend that Your Advices in General be more clear and Concise than thoſe you have hitherto wrote Us.

*Commit-* Tho' there may be no immediate Proſpect of accom-  
*tee's ad-* pliſhing the points the Hon'ble Company had particularly  
*vice* in View by ſoliciting Permiſſion from the Durbar for a fixed Reſidence at Poonah, yet many other good Conſequences may in time enſue, that may turn out equally to their Advantage, provided You act agreeable to the Inſtructions you are furniſhed with, and Endeavour to conciliate the Minds of all the Miniſters, and Cultivate a good Underſtanding with them, as the Hon'ble Company in their Commands of the 1ſt April ſo particularly directed; but nothing will ever be obtained by Entering into Uſleſs [*useless*] or important Altercations with them, as from ſome of Your Advices before us You appear to Do.

*Stay at* From the Conſiderations above recited, and becauſe  
*Poona* you know the Hon'ble Company ſo earneſtly wiſh to fix a

Resident at Poonah, the Board Concurred with Us in expressing their Surprize at Your proposing, as you did in Your Letter of the 28th Ultimo, a temporary removal hither, when in the same Letter you allow that, had not leave been obtained for Your Residence previous to the Decease of Madah Row, it probably would never have been granted. It therefore naturally follows that Your Departure would be considered as a Vertual Resignation of the grant, and that a refusal would be the Consequence of an Application to admit of Your return; as you must therefore remain at Poonah, where Your Continuance seems to be more immediately necessary from the Present Divided State of the Ministry, We hope the attention You will in future pay to Your Instructions and from the Address we flatter ourselves You will exert in promoting the Companys Interests, that in time You will be able to accomplish the Points Committed to your Charge, and thereby Justify the Confidence the Hon'ble Court of Directors reposed in You by appointing you to this great trust; and You will remember that We have now the Town and Territory of Broach in Our Possession, which We might be induced to give Up in addition to what the Hon'ble Company pointed out, provided the Offers made by the Morattahs were adequated to the Advantage they must reap from it. A copy of the 14 Articles you requested is Enclosed together with a Description of two Men, Deserters from the Kings Ships, whose return it is wished you could procure.

BOMBAY CASTLE, 16th Febry, 1773.

We are Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

WILLIAM TAYLER

DANIEL DRAPER .

JOHN WATSON

NATH. STACKHOUSE

P. S. Not being able to find the 14 articles you allude

to, we direct that you inform us where you suppose they are Registered, and under what date.

*Projected visit* **Monday 22nd.** This morning Ramajee Chitnees paid me a Visit, and as it's said Naron Row is soon going on a Visit to His Mother at Nassik and will not return in less than two Months, by which time the Rains will be drawn near, *Mostyn's quarters* I hinted to Him I wish to know the Durbars Resolutions with respect to a Place of Residence; for it would be impossible for me to live, where I was, during the Rains; and even if they allotted me a Piece of ground to Build on, it would be out of my Power to Complete a House in Time. He said He would mention it to Naron Row, as it was certainly necessary, particularly so for the owner of the Garden in which I lived would think it very hard if I remained here much longer.

**Tuesday 23rd.** This afternoon a Servant of Naron Rows came with His Masters Compliments to acquaint me that Ramajee Chitnees had mentioned to Him the Purport of our Conversation Yesterday; but as He was going to set out to Morrow on a Visit to His Mother, had not now time either to appoint a Piece of Ground to Build on, or a House for my Present abode; however He would return shortly, when He would do both.

*Visit postponed* **Wednesday 24th.** I am informed this morning, notwithstanding Naron Rows Message to me Yesterday, His Journey is put off for a time. The motives given for it are various; some say the Death of Jezaboy<sup>1</sup> the Mallawan Ranney; which, if true, most likely is the Case; for the Durbar may probably endeavour to seize Her Country, as there is only an adopted Son that has any Pretentions to it. Others say that a Dispute between Him and His Uncle occasions His Stay, the former wishing the latter to remain here during His Absence, which He Positively refuses to do,

dreading the Enmity of the Mother<sup>1</sup> may prevail on Her Son to treat Him in the same Manner Madah Row did, that is by making Him again Prisoner.

This afternoon I addressed the Select Committee the following letter in answer to theirs received the 21st, which, I flatter myself, will satisfy them with my Conduct and also Convince my Hon'ble Masters I have neither willfully neglected their Interest or the Orders of my Superiors.

*Letter to  
Bombay*

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Members of the Select  
Committee on  
BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Your Commands of the 16th Instant have duly come No to hand, and I am very sorry to find Your Honor &ca *negligence* therein have so severely Condemned me for neglect of the Hon'ble Companys Interest and the Instructions You were pleased to give me on setting out; however I hope it will appear to You I have neither been Guilty of the one or the other, and that on second Consideration You will acquit me of both, as I am Conscious I have done all in my Power to attain the Principal Ends for which I was sent hither.

Your Directions to me on leaving Bombay were particular that all Letters on the subject of my negotiations *The Board* [negotiations] should be Addressed to You, and which I attended to with care untill the Receipt of the Boards Commands of the 30th December, when after having acquainted me with Futtysings Offer for Broach and other Principal points on which I was Ordered to Negotiate, They were pleased to Direct me to acquaint them as soon as Possible of this Durbars Resolutions, and whether the

Cession of that Place, added to what the Hon'ble Company have pointed out, would Induce them to come into their Views. This was my sole inducement for addressing all my Letters afterwards to the Board; but in future I shall take care to make the Distinction Your Honor &ca Direct. The 3d Article of Your Instructions to me is relative to my Correspondence with the Presidencies of Bengal and Madras; and Conformable thereto, had there anything occurred to my knowledge to Affect the Interest of either, I would immediately have informed them of it; but deemed it unnecessary to put Our Hon'ble Masters to the Expence of Pattamars merely to advise them of my Arrival Here. Herein, as well as in everything else, I will not fail to Obey Your Orders and acquaint them of my having obtained leave to Reside at this Court, as also, on my discovering anything relative to the Hon'ble Companys possessions in those Parts or their Allies, to send them the necessary Notice. I am Concerned to Observe You are also pleased to deem my Letters hitherto Prolix, and of entering into Useless Disputes. With respect to the former, it was owing to my wish of having the Board fully acquainted with every Conversation that has Passed relative to the Hon'ble Companys Affairs betwixt myself, Ministers & Durbar; therefore set them down as they occurred; but in future they shall be as Concise as the Subject will admit.

Regarding the latter, I have endeavoured to avoid every shadow of Altercation, and the only appearance of one of any Consequence was, when they made the Extraordinary Demand of Broach for the Expences we were at in taking it, or what Futtysing had Offered; and I then only replied to such Questions as they advanced, and as far as I Judged necessary; for to be Silent or appear Timid would seem strange and make these People, whose Dispositions you are well acquainted with, much more Windy and Extravagant.

I Join in opinion with Your Honor &ca many good *With-*  
 Consequences may accrue to the Hon'ble Company from *drawal*  
 having a Constant Resident at this Durbar, Tho' there be *from*  
 no immediate Prospects of fulfilling their Views in sending *Poona*  
 one [*a resident*] Hither. I am therefore the more Concern-  
 ed to find You are pleased to Censure me for my Proposal  
 of withdrawing for a time to Bombay. It was, supposing  
 the Durbar to persist in their Demand of Broach on the  
 Terms above mentioned, then and not otherwise to be put  
 in Execution; and the Opinion I then gave was solely  
 Dictated by my earnest desire and Intention to put a stop  
 to so absurd a Demand and forward the Companys Interest  
 as much as lay in my Power by Convincing the Durbar we  
 were not to be terrified out of so important an Acquisition.  
 I have ever had the Hon'ble Companys Commands & Your  
 Instructions in View with respect to Cultivating an  
 acquaintance and Friendship with all the Ministers; but  
 when Parties run so high and oppose each other, it is  
 impossible but one or other will be against Us. My  
 attention has been alike to all, to the Prince only it has been  
 Particular.

These are the motives of my Conduct, and what was *Promises*  
 Contained in my address of the 28th Ulto. If I have Erred,  
 give me leave to Assure Your Honor &ca it was not  
 with Intention, as the promotion of the Hon'ble Companys  
 Interest, has, is, and ever shall be my Constant Study. I  
 therefore Hope on the Perusal of the above You will acquit  
 me of the very heavy Charges of Inattention to Your  
 Orders and neglect of my Duty to Our Hon'ble Masters.

The Durbar have not renewed their Demand of *Various*  
 Broach; should they [*renew it*], or make any further *items*  
 Offers, I will not fail to Advise You thereof immediately.  
 I am informed letters from Dhilly, received two Days ago,  
 mention a Skirmish between Sujah Dowlahs Son, Joined by

some of Our Troops, and the Morattahs to the Northward of the Jumnah, in which the latter fled, leaving two Elephants, some Horses and their Baggage. The 14 Articles with the Order for the payment of the 30,915-3-50 are, I believe, in the Presidents Office ; and as I shall have occasion for both, request they may be sent.

Poonah, 24th Febr'y, 1773.

I remain very Respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your Most Obed. Humble Servt.

*Batty contractor* **Thursday 25th.** This afternoon, agreeable to the Shetchews Message to me on the 19th, He acquainted me He should be glad to see me. I accordingly waited on Him ; and as there is no possibility of visiting any Person for the first time in Station or Power, without making Him a Present agreeable to His Rank, I was under the necessity of making Him and His Brother one. I asked Him about the Batty ; but He declined talking on Business till He returned my Visit, which He promised to do in a Day or two.

*War with Shuja-ud-daula* **Friday 26th.** I this morning was informed that a Letter had been received in twenty five Days from Trim-buck Row Sadasew in the Morattah Army, which mentions that Vissajee Punt and Tookajee Holker<sup>1</sup> with about 50,000 Men had crossed the Jumnah on their way towards Farukabad, and that Sujah Dowlah with 40,000 had crossed the Ganga in order to Defend the Districts of Corrieganabad ; the Consequence of these movements are Daily Expected.

*Letters* Agreeable to the Select Committees Commands of the 16th, Addressed the following Letters to the Presidencies of Madrass and Bengal.

1 The information here set down by Mostyn is confirmed by Colonel Champion, who happened to be on the spot. See Macpherson, *Soldiering in India*, pp. 105 and 108.

To

THE HON'BLE JOSIAS DU PRÉ, ESQR.

President and Governor &amp;ca Council at

FORT ST. GEORGE.

*Letter to  
Madras*

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

This is principally to advise Your Honor &ca of my *Residence* Arrival at this Place, as also of my having obtained leave *in Poona* of the Durbar for my Continuing Here as the Hon'ble Companys Resident. Which I should not have failed to Communicate to You long since, had ought occurred in addition to it, that I judged necessary Your Honor &ca should have been acquainted with ; but as my Superiors at Bombay have Directed me to write You, I now inform You thereof, as I shall from time to time of any motions of the Morattahs, that may Affect Your Presidency or its Allies.

Since Madah Rows Death and the Accession of Naron *Dissen-* Row to the Peshwaship, Disputes have run very high *sions in* between the Ministers ; which, added to the low State of *Poona* their Treasury, will in all likelihood prevent their undertaking anything of Consequence at least this Season.

The Morattah Forces in Hindostan are Commanded *Affairs in* by Vissajee Punt Benewallah, Tookajee Holker and Madjee *Hindu-* Scindy ; and by Certain Intelligence from thence are *stan* Disunited on Account of the two former having made Japtah Caun,<sup>1</sup> the Rohillah, Buxy to the King, contrary to the inclination of the latter, who has therefore separated from them and gone towards Jainagur [*Jaipur*]. Vissajee

1 Zabita Khan was not a trustworthy ally. Colonel Champion wrote to the Select Committee, Calcutta (February 10, 1773) : "His Excellency (Shuja-ud-daula) has received repeated assurances from Zabita Khan that he will not act against him". Two days later, on February 12, 1773, Colonel Champion wrote : "Zabita Khan wrote to Haffiz Rahmat Cawn that, if he had the least spirit of a soldier, he will join his Excellency (Shuja-ud-daula) and our British troops." (Macpherson, *Soldiering in India*, pp. 109, 110)



Punt & Tookajee Holker have put the Buxy in Charge of Dhilly, where the King is at Present.

*The  
Bhonsle  
trouble* I presume Your Honor &ca are acquainted with the Dispute between Moodajee & Sabajee (Brothers to Janojee Bouncello) for the Government ; by Advices received a few Days ago they have had a Skirmish in which Sabajee, who has received the Sirpaw and is Supported by this Durbar, got the better ; but we are in daily Expectations of hearing of a Decisive Battle.

Whenever Your Honor &ca may have Occasion to Favour me with Your Commands, a due Obedience shall be paid thereto.

Poonah, 26th Febry, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

*Letter to  
Bengal* To

THE HON'BLE WARREN HASTINGS, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council at

FORT WILLIAM.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

*Residence  
in Poona*

This is principally to advice Your Honor &ca of my Arrival at this Place, as also of my having obtained leave of this Durbar for my Continuing here as the Hon'ble Companys Resident; which I should not have failed to Communicate to You long since, had ought occured in addition to it, that Judged necessary Your Honor &ca should have been acquainted with ; but as my Superiors at Bombay have Directed me to write You, I now inform you thereof, as I shall from time to time of any motions of the Morattahs, that may Affect Your Presidency or its Allies.

*Dissen-  
sions in  
Poona*

Since Madah Rows Death and the Accession of Naron Row to the Peshwaship, Disputes have run very high between the Ministers, which, added to the low State of

their Treasury, will in all likelihood prevent their undertaking anything of Consequence at least this Season.

As Your Honour &c must have much earlier Intelligence with Respect to the Affairs in Hindostan and of the Dispute between the two Brothers of Janojee Bouncello for that Government than I can possibly send You, it is useless my Troubling You therewith. But by Letters from the Army, received here Yesterday in twenty five Days, they have since Marched, Joined with the Buxy, towards Farukabad, and Consist in all of about 50,000 Men. Sujah Dowlah, who was quartered at Bengalah and said to be joined by some of our Bengal Troops, is by the same Advices Marched from thence towards Corrieganabad to Defend those Districts; the Consequence of these Movements is yet uncertain.

When Your Honor &c may have Occasion to favour me with Your Commands, a due Obedience and Attention shall be paid thereto.

Poonah, 26th Febyr, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble St.

Having this Evening received the Durbars Orders for the Delivery of the Seven Men, Deserters from His Majestys Ships (if found) mentioned in the Committee and Presidents Letters, immediately dispatched People about the Country to try to gain Intelligence of them.

**Sunday 28th.** This morning the Durbar sent to Complain of the Gentlemen at Broach having Collected more Revenues from Jambooseer and Amood<sup>1</sup> than the Mogul had originally a right to ; tho' the late Nabob had at Different times done it, Yet He had no legal right ; but

1 Jambusar, Amod.

took the opportunity, when their Troops were otherwise Employed, to do it. They however from Our known Justice and their Right Expected We would give the necessary Orders to prevent those Places from being molested again. As it's proper my Superiors should be clearly informed of the real Pretentions of their Claim to the aforementioned Districts, I requested the Durbar would Favour me with the whole in writing, which they have promised to do.

*Accounts* The Factory Charges for February being closed, they are Conformable to the following Extract.

Extract of Account Disbursements for the Residency of Poonah for February, 1773.

To Factory Charges—as per account at

large	...	...	487-2-,,
„ Provision Money to sundries	...	...	374-2-,,
„ Ramjee Adowjee Advanced Him	...	...	50-,,-,,
„ Charges Extraordinary	...	...	233-2-,,
„ Stable Charges	...	...	50-1-80
„ Garrison Charges	...	...	6-,,-,,
„ Account Presents	...	...	684-,,-,,

Rups... 1,885-3-80

ERRORS EXCEPTED.

POONAH, 28th February, 1773.

### March.

*S. Bapu's opposition* **Tuesday 2nd.** The last time Ramajee Chitnees Visited me He told me that Sacaram Bapoo was frequently Exclaiming at the Durbar the Little use of Our Friendship; and tho' I had resided in Poonah near five Months, had not complied with a single request of theirs; and hinted at the late Agreement with the Surat Nabob not being yet settled; and as this, relative to Surat, has been before mentioned to

me, I this Day Addressed the Chief of that Place to request He would acquaint me with the Reason for its not being fulfilled, that I may be enabled to give this Court an Answer whenever they bring this Subject on the Carpet.

Yesterday Appajee Ram, Heyders vackeel, arrived *Ambas-* in Town with presents to Naron Row and Ministers and, I *sadors* am told, with Powers to Continue the Peace, as before Settled, for two Years longer, but has not brought the Balance due on Account of the Last Treaty. Daver Jung<sup>1</sup> is also coming on the like occasion and is within a few Days March.

The last Letters from Berar mention that the two *The* Bouncellos have made Peace, and come to an agreement *Bhonsles* that the Government shall be Invested in Ragojee, Moodajee's Son, who was Adopted by Janojee, and they to act as Ministers.

Letters from Benares Confirm the Intelligence from *Shuja-ud-* Dhilly that the Morattahs have actually crossed the Jumnah, *daula* and Sujah Dowlahs Son, Joined with some of our Troops, the Gungah, and within few Days March of each other.

This afternoon the Shetchews Carcoon at my request *The batty* waited on me, when I desired to know the Quantity, Sort- *contract* ments and Price of the Batty His Master had to Dispose of ; He told me it was not in his Power to acquaint me with the Quantity till He went into the Conkon, and as to the price it could not be Settled till the Subedar of Basseen sells.

**Wednesday 3rd.** I am informed for a Certainty the *Rani* Ranny<sup>2</sup> is Dead, and that Trimbuck Row Mana is appointed *Jijabai*

1 *Diary*, March 6, 1773, where Daver Jung is called the Nizams Vakil. On March 7, 1773, in a letter to Bombay, he is called the Nizam's ambassador. On March 15, 1773, he is called Rukn-ud-daula's son ; on June 23, 1773, he is called Rukn-ud-daula's brother.

2 Jijabai, Appendix No. 26.

to go with Compliments of Condolence and Assurances of Friendship to the Young Rajah ; but it's imagined, if He can by Treachery get possession of Purnello Fort, He is Instructed to do it.

*Naval* This afternoon the Durbar received Intelligence that  
*fight* their Fleet had Engaged the Portugeuze, in which they had been Defeated and much Damaged.

*Memoran-* **Thursday 4th.** The Chitnees sent me the Memo-  
*dums* randums regarding the Pretentions this Court have to the Districts of Amood and Jambooseer, which as soon as Translated shall be forwarded to the Committee for their Information and Directions.

*Leave* In the Evening Dadah Row and his brother, Mahomed  
*taking* Ally Caun's Vackeels, came to take leave, and on their going away, made them the usual Present.

*Durbar's* **Friday 5th.** This morning Hurry Punt Furkiah sent  
*represen-* his Compliments and Requested to see me. I accordingly  
*tatives* went, and found Ramajee Chitnees with Him ; after the usual Salutations They acquainted me the Durbar had appointed them to Transact any Business that might occur between me and the Governt. I told them any Persons the Durbar thought proper to pitch upon would be agreeable to me, but could not help Expressing my Satisfaction at their fixing on them, as knowing them to be Favourites of their Master, and also believing they were well wishers

*Maratha* to both States. They then repeated what had been said at  
*grievances* the Durbar and on my first Visit to the Different Ministers respecting our Friendship, and added that I had now been here five Months, and nothing Effected on either Part. I asked them what it was they ever had proposed or requested me to do. They replied Sacaram Bapoo had pointed out several Articles in my first Audience on Business at the Durbar. I told Him if they knew what the Duan meant by what he said that Day, I should be obliged to

them for pointing it out; for that I must ingenuously confess I could draw no Conclusion from a Conversation the most Incoherent and Unintelligible I ever had heard. They here dropped this Subject, and mentioned the Demand I had made of 30,915-3-50, to which Vissajee Punt had started Some objections by saying the Payment depended on the Adjustment of 14 Articles, the which I had promised to Confute, but had not yet done it. The delay, I acquainted them, was due to the Articles and order being mislaid, and therefore not sent from Bombay; but I had again wrote for them and expected them daily; on which they observed if so much time was taken up in having a reply to such Trifles, how should business of moment, which the Durbar had to impart, be Transacted; and then hinted at the Delay of an Answer to their Demand of Broach. I asked them what answer they could Expect, when I had already acquainted Ramajee Chitnees that Futtysings Offers had been rejected by the Governor and Council, more than which, or the Expences we were at in taking it, Naron Row had never proposed; and added if they would give themselves time to Consider the great loss we had sustained (besides the Nabobs's Debt) both of Blood and Treasure and the great Advantages that would accrue to them from having the Place in question in their possession, they would seen perceive how inadequate their Proposals were. But even as it was, I could not Comprehend what the Durbar really meant by their present Behaviour, when the Prince on one side seemed to wish to get possession of Broach, and the Duan, as I am told, Expresses his Suprize at the Place not being given up to Futtysing. They desired I would not believe all that was said regarding the latter, and hoped, now they were appointed to talk with me on Business, every thing would go on in a proper manner. They also said they would in the Evening inform Naron

14 Arti-  
cles

Broach

Audience

Row with what had passed, and believed he would send for me in a Day or two and inform me of anything further he had to say, as he intended soon to set out for Gungapore on a Visit to His Mothor, and by the time he returned would expect a final Answer ; on which I took my leave. This Evening Naron Row went to His Tent at Samgome where He intends staying the Hooly and receive the Nizams Vackeel. After which He means to set out for Gungapore.

*The Nizam's Vakil* **Saturday 6th.** This evening the Nizams Vackeel arrived and Visited both Naron Row and Ragobah.

*Letter to Bombay* **Sunday 7th.** Wrote my Superiors, the Board and Committee, the following Letters, Enclosing the former my Accounts to the End of January, and the latter the Memorandum delivered me by the Durbar.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

*The batty contract* My last Address waited on You the 19th Ulto, and agreeable to what I then Advised, after frequent messages, have at last seen Anant Row Shetchew ; but from his manner of acting, by saying He knows not the quantity of Batty he had or the price untill His man went down into the Conkon, Judge there is no prospect of settling anything with Him. The Subedar of Basseen has been gone some time and is now at Upton, where he waits for the Mozamdar, who is still Here, and it is not certain when he will set out ; and as Your Honor &ca can fix the Price much sooner with the Subedar than I can do at this Distance, have desired the Mozamdar to write Him [*the subadar*] That, if you want the Batty, You

will immediately send a person to fix the Price with Him there.

By the last Advices, in twenty Eight Days from Hindostan, the Morattah Army and Sujah Dowlah were much in the same Situation as before Advised You, except being a little nearer each other ; and it's here believed a Battle must soon ensue, on the Issue of which the Politicks of this Durbar seem much to Depend. *Shuja-ud-daula*

Moodajee and Sabajee Bouncello after a trifling Skirmish have made up matters, and agreed that the Adopted son of Janojee shall have the Government, and they Jointly to act as Duans. *The Bhonsle compromise*

Jezabay Ranney<sup>1</sup> is certainly Dead, and the Durbar had intentions of sending a Force thither ; but having Received Advices that the Young Rajah is Crowned, and Letters from Him signifying His Obedience, they have determined to send Trimbuk Row Mamma with Presents Usual on those Occasions. Orders for the Delivery of the Deserters from His Majestys Ships have been sent both into the Conkon and around Poonah, but have received no intelligence of them. Embassadors both from the Nizam and Heyder Ally arrived two Days ago with Presents to Naron Row on His being made Peshwah. *Rani Jijabai Deserters Ambassadors*

Enclosed Your Honor &ca will please to receive my Account Disbursements for October, November, December and January, the Balance of which being 2473-,-74, I request You will please to order it to be paid to Brice Fletcher, Esqr. *Accounts*

Poonah, 7th March, 1773.

I am with respect,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.



Letter to To  
Bombay

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &c Members of  
the Select Committee on  
BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

*Jambusar  
and Amood*

Since my last Respect of the 24th Ulto Ramajee Chitnees made me a Visit by Order of the Durbar to Complain of Our having Collected Revenues from the Districts of Jambooseer and Amood, more than ever properly belonged to Broach. The Nabob had, he said, at Different times forced Sums of Money from them, taking the opportunity of the absence of their Troops. His Master therefore Expected, both from Our known Justice and His right, that We would give the necessary Orders to prevent more being Collected than was our Right. Judging it necessary Your [*Honor*] &c should be clearly informed of their Claim, requested I might be favoured with it in writing, which having now received, transmit You, and beg to be favoured with Your Determination thereon, that I may give them an Answer.

*Durbar's  
represent-  
atives*

Two Days ago Hurry Punt sent to request to see me. I accordingly went and found Him and Ramajee Chitnees waiting for me. They opened the Conversation by repeating the whole of what passed between the Durbar, Sacaram Bappoo and myself, and told me they were appointed to transact any Business between them and me, and hoped now things would go on in a more regular manner. I assured them the utmost of my endeavours should be exerted to that End, and that I was fully satisfied with their Appointment. They hinted at Naron Rows Offers for Broach, and said He intended talking with me on that and

other subjects before His Departure for Gungapore, for which place He sets out in a Day or two.

Poona, 7th March, 1773.

I remain very Respectfully

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your most Obedt. Humble St.

Memorandum of the Revenues legally recovered by *Poona me-*  
the Nabob of Broach, from the Districts of Jambooseer and *morandum*  
Amood, as delivered me by the Durbar.

District of Jumbooseer	...	14,000--,,,	
Do Amood	...	7,600--,,,	
		<hr/>	21,600--,,,

What he did for four or five  
Years past recover by force  
more than His right.

District of Amood	...	10,000--,,,	
Do. Jambooseer	...	17,900--,,,	
Do. Dahazedar	...	4,000--,,,	
		<hr/>	31,900--,,,

each Year	...	...	53,500--,,,
Deduct the Usual Revenues...	...	...	21,600--,,,
			<hr/>
			31,900--,,,

This amount He recovered from the above Districts, which belonged to this Sircar, on which account the Durbar wrote to Guicquah and the Nabob, who refused a part and Promised the remainder.

**Friday 12th.** I am informed advices have been *Shuja-ud-*  
received from the Morattah Army, which mention that *dawla*  
Sujah Dowlah and the English are so Strong that they  
doubt whether they shall be able to face them.

**Saturday 13th.** Last night the Durbar received *Sidi*  
Intelligence that Sciddee Raim has sent out two Hundred *Rahim*

Men to Plunder the Country round Rajapore, and they this morning Dispatched Order to their Officer before Rye Gurr for him to send immediately two Hundred Horse to Protect that Part of the Country. This, by what I can learn, is Principally owing to the Dispute between the Durbar and the Present Sciddee about an Agreement made between Madah Row and Sciddee Yacood, that is, the Latter Consented to give up to the Former the Rasavade,<sup>1</sup> or difference in the Revenues of the Villages about Rajapore, which was before equally Divided between them, Provided the Morattahs would allow Sciddee Abdul Raim, 15,000 Rupees a Year, and keep him above the Gotts. These Articles Raim will pay no regard to, Now He has the Government<sup>2</sup> (by which the Morattahs saved the 15000 a Year), and insists on the Revenues being recovered as usual. Naron Row refuses the whole, but has consented to relinquish a part, and sent away the Sciddees Man a Day or Two ago with a Letter to this Purport, which could not be arrived before the Sciddee took this step, therefore he may alter His Resolutions on the Receipt of it.

*Durbar's*            **Sunday 14th.** This afternoon Hurry Punt sent His  
*representa-* Compliments and requested to see me at Camp, and on my  
*tatives* arrival found Him and the Chitnees waiting to receive me ;  
*Broach* after the usual Compliments and professions of Friendship,  
 they desired to know my Answer to their Proposals for

1 Probably derived from the Persian *rasad*, meaning the provisions of grain, forage and other necessities to be got ready by the local officers at the camping ground of a military force or official cortege. (Hobson-Jobson) Something like the right of purveyance which formerly obtained in England.

2 Abdul Rahim's accessions to power, prior to March, 1773, confirms Mostyn's allusion to the Janjira revolution on October 17, 1772. It would likewise seem that by March 13, 1773, Sidi Yacut had died. It has been suggested that he was murdered by Abdul Rahim. See *Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XI, note; and Appendix No. 11.

Broach. I told them if they had nothing new to say on that Head, the same answer I gave them last would Suffice. They said when States were in Amity with each other, trifles with respect to Interest should be overlooked. I told them If they stiled them trifles, why should so Powerful a State as they want Us to give them up, as we had an equal right to Expect marks of Friendship from them. According to their Usual Custom, they Dropped this subject, and Began on that of Jinjerah; they said that ever since *Janjira* the Present Family came to this Government, they had been desirous of getting that Place into their Possession, or at least Dispossessing the Sciddee of it; and as I was come here to Encrease and Strengthen the Friendship that has so long subsisted between Us and Them, they hoped thro' our means to accomplish their Views, and that We would take the Place and give it them. In reply to this I acquainted them We had been in Amity with that State for many Years, before we Entered into any Treaty with them, and which had Continued without any Interruption Hitherto; therefore how could they hope or expect we should Violate Our Engagements.<sup>1</sup> They then said, if what they had proposed could not be accepted, they had three other methods to Offer. The first was that We would take the Place and keep it in our own Hands; Secondly Assist them in taking it, and be paid Our Expences; or lastly that We would stand Neuter, and let them use their own Endeavours; and as the whole of what they had now mentioned was but Reasonable, nay the first Advantageous for Us, they desired my Answer; which If I could not give, that I would write to Bombay and Obtain one. I told them I could not give them a Direct Answer to what they had Advanced. But I could Venture to Assure them we should abide by the

<sup>1</sup> Compare Mostyn's statement with the instructions received on September 29, 1772.

Treaties we had entered into, both with this Government and the Sciddee; however, agreeable to their request, I would write my Superiors; and when I was favoured with their Resolutions, I would acquaint the Durbar therewith. On this they begged to know how long it would be before I could procure the Governor and Councils Determination. I replied I could not positively say when, but imagined before Naron Rows return from Gungapore, with which they seemed satisfied; and afterwards mentioned the Resident of Bancoots having stoped the River, which they suppose was owing to some of their Officers having stoped some of Our Cattle; and as they had given Orders for their Release, Hoped I would write to the Governor that the River might be again opened as usual; and on my telling them I would Comply with their Request, they asked me if I would wait on Naron Row to take leave of Him, as He would set out early the next morning, which I accordingly did. From the Tenor of what has passed about Jinjerah, I have reason to believe the Durbars Principal motive was to sound me and try to find out our Sentiments, and how we should Act, were they to break with the Sciddee, or whether we could be brought to Join them against Him; but as their Offers by no means Coincide with my Hon'ble Masters Views, I avoided opening myself to them, or giving them the least intimation of Our Intentions; for the doing it, untill they bid fairer, will be giving them an Opportunity of entering into a Private Treaty with the Sciddee, which He most likely would readily do, Had He any Idea of Our giving Him up.

*Trouble at Bankot*  
*Leave taking*  
*Mostyn's explanations*  
*Letter to Bombay*

Determined to inform the Select Committee of every thing that has passed and to request their Directions in Case the Durbar renew these Offers or make any others that may appear adequate, whether I shall open myself and declare what may Induce Us to come into their

measures ; and as the whole of the foregoing Conversation passed in the hearing of several People, it's possible the Sciddee may get Intelligence of it with additions ; therefore will submit it to my Superiors Consideration whether it may not be proper for them to Hint to the Sciddee that some proposals have been made, but that He may notwithstanding depend on our support.<sup>1</sup>

**Monday 15th.** Very early this morning Naron Row *N. Rao's* with all His ministers set out for Gungapore, having *departure* despatched both Gaujudy Caun<sup>2</sup> and Ruchnah Dowlahs Son.<sup>3</sup>

**Tuesday 16th.** Yesterday Letters were received from *Shuja-ud-Hindostan*, which mention that the Morattahs have *daula* Advanced beyond Entava [*Etawah*], leaving there all their baggage ; that Sujah Dowlah was come on this side Mendee Gott ;<sup>4</sup> and the two Armies being within twenty Coase of each other, a Battle was daily Expected ; and it was supposed would happen the day before the Hooley, which is ten Days ago.

Conformable to the Minute under the 14th, Addressed *Letter to* the Select Committee the following Letter : *Bombay*

1 The whole entry is a fair sample of state-craft ; but for the benefit of the readers of the late Major Basu it may be pointed out that such shuffling and fencing are not the monopoly of the ambassadors of Christian Powers, nor are they countenanced by Christian Principles.

2 Appendix No. 20.

3 Rukn-ud-daula was the Nizam's minister ; as regards his son, see *Diary*, March 2, 1773, note.

4 Captain Macpherson mentions Mindee Ghat, 2½ kos below Raja Ghat. (Macpherson, *Soldiering in India*, p. 184), South-east of the spot where the Aligarh-Chandari railway line crosses the Ganges, there are three Ghats : Raj Ghat, Mindee Ghat, Ram Ghat.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Members of the Select  
Committee at  
BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

*Durbar's* I last Addressed You the 7th ; and agreeable to what  
*represen-* I then Advised Your Honour &ca, I was the 14th sent for  
*tatives* to the Camp at Samgome, where Naron Row has been some  
days. I was first introduced into Hurry Punts Tent, where  
I found Him and Ramajee Chitnees ; after the usual Pro-  
*Broach* fessions of Friendship, they desired to know my Answer to  
their Offers for Broach. I replied as they had offered no  
more than what Futtysing had, and which had been reject-  
ed by Your Honor &ca, what Answer could they Expect.  
They said where States were in Amity with each other,  
trifles with respect to Interest should be overlooked. I  
told them if they were trifles, why should they desire  
Us to give them up, having an Equal right to expect  
Friendship from them.

*Janjira* They then entered on the Subject of Jinjerah, saying  
that ever since this Family had been in the Government,  
they had been desirous of geting that place into their  
Possession, or Dispossessing the Sciddee of it ; and as I was  
come here to Encrease and Strengthen the Friendship  
that has so long Subsisted between Us, they hoped thro'  
our means to accomplish their Views ; and to that end had  
three methods to propose : the first was, for Us to take it,  
and keep it in Our own Hands ; if that was not Eligible, to  
Assist them in taking it and be paid Our Expences what-  
ever they might be ; and lastly if the two former were in-  
convenient, that We would stand Neuter, and they would use  
their own Endeavours. To these they desired my Answer  
the which If I could not give, that I would write to Bombay

and obtain one. I told them to neither of their propositions could I give them a Direct Answer; but Conformable to their request, I would write my Superiors, and whatever might be their Resolution, I would acquaint them with; but at the same time could Venture to Assure them We should abide by the Treaties we had Entered into both with this Government and the Sciddees. They desired to know how long it would be before I could procure an Answer. I told them I could not positively say, but imagined before Naron Rows Return from Gungapore, with which they seemed satisfied. I then waited on Naron Row to take my *Audience* leave of Him, as He sets out very early in the morning; but Ruchnah Dowlahs Son being there also on His Audience of leave, nothing passed.

From the Tenor of what they mentioned about Jinjerah, *Mostyn's explanation* Your Honor &ca will perceive their principal motive was to sound me and find out our Sentiments how we should Act were they to break with the Sciddee, or whether We could be brought to Join them against Him; but as their offers by no means Coincide with Our Hon'ble Masters Views, I avoided opening my self to them, or giving them the least Intimation of Our Intentions; the doing which, untill they bid fairer, would be giving them an opportunity of inducing the Sciddee to enter into a private Agreement, which He most likely would do, had he any Idea of Our giving Him up.

Having Informed Your Honor &ca of every thing that *Mostyn's advice* has passed, I request Your Honor &c as Directions thereon, and if the Durbar should repeat their Offers or make any others, whether I shall open myself to them and Declare what might Induce Us to come into their measures. It is necessary Your Honor &ca should be informed that the whole of the conversation between Hari Punt, Ramajee Chitnees and me passed in the hearing of the several



People ; therefore it is probable the Sciddee may get some Intelligence of it with additions ; for this reason I submit it to Your consideration whether it may not be proper to have it hinted to the Sciddee that some proposals have been made, but that He may notwithstanding depend on Our Friendship.

*Shuja-ud-daula* By advices received Yesterday from Hindostan the Morattahs seem determined to Hazard a Battle, having advanced beyond Entava Fort, leaving there all their Baggage ; that Sujah Dowlah with all His Forces are also advanced on this Side Mendee Gott, and were within 20 Coase of each other ; and that the day before their Hooley, which is ten Days past, it was expected there would be a Battle.

*Raigurh* The Havaldar of Rye Gurr<sup>1</sup> has Delivered up the Fort to the Morattahs, for which he has, I hear, received forty Thousand Rupees.

Poonah, 16th March, 1773.

I remain very respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

*Janjira trouble* P.S. I am just now informed the Durbar has ordered, 200 Horse and 400 Foot down towards Jinjerah to protect as they say, their Districts from being molested by the Sciddee, who, they have heard, has sent two Hundred Men

*Maratha defeat* out for that Purpose. I am also told it is reported in Town that the Morattahs and Sujah Dowlah have had an Engagement, and the former Defeated,<sup>2</sup> but I cannot learn of any Letters being received that mention it.

*Maratha defeat* **Wednesday 17th.** It is reported in Town, tho' no Letters that I can learn have been received, that Sujah *Troops sent to Janjira* Dowlah and the Morattahs have had a Battle, in which the latter were Defeated.<sup>3</sup> I am also informed that the Durbar

1 Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 696.

2 and 3. A false rumour, as is made evident by the entry made on March 22, 1773.

have come to a Resolution of sending 800 Men in addition to those from Rye Gurr against the Sciddee.

**Monday 22nd.** Letters were this Day received from *Shuja-ud-Hindostan*, which bring Intelligence (notwithstanding the report under the 17th) that the Morattahs and Sujah Dowlah are still about 20 Coase Distant, the former on this side, and the latter on the other side the Gungah; Sujah Dowlah did cross it, but was persuaded to repass it by the Rohillah Japtah Caun,<sup>1</sup> who, tho' Joined with the Morattahs, wanted to enter into a private agreement with Sujah Dowlah; and Engaged, if He would make this movement, to Induce, the Morattahs to follow Him, when they might be totally Destroyed; unfortunately the whole scheme was Discovered before it could be put into Execution by one of the Letters which passed on this Subject being intercepted by the Morattahs, which put an end to the Affair.

**Friday 26th.** This morning the Hircarrahs<sup>2</sup> and *Deserters* Sepoys, sent some Days ago to gain Intelligence of the Deserters from His Majesties Ships, returned without being able to find them.

**Wednesday 31st.** The account Disbursements for *Accounts* this month being closed are as follows:—

Disbursements on account of the Residency of Poonah for March 1773:

To Factory Charges, *Viz.*

Diet to Mr. Mostyn	...	50
Do. to Mr. Lane	...	30
House rent	...	80
Do. Mr. Lane	...	40
Allowance to Do. as reader of Divine Service	...	12

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<sup>1</sup> Zabita Khan.

<sup>2</sup> Hurcara, hircara : a messenger, a courier, an emissary, a spy. (Hobson-Jobson)

1 Purvoo	...	20	
1 Jentoo Writer	...	20	
1 Persian Do.	...	15	
2 Durbar Servants	...	20	
1 Do. Mr. Lane	...	10	
2 Chopdars	...	20	
2 Musal Men	...	12	
2 Summer Aid Do.	...	10	
1 Cook	...	10	
1 Baker	...	10	
14 Hamals	...	84	
1 Gardner	...	6	
2 Horesekeepers	...	12	
1 Halancore	...	5	
		<hr/>	254
Candles for Office	...	4	
Coconut Oil for Lamps		8	
Jinjilee Do. for Massals		5	
Beatle Nut, Rose Water			
&ca	...	4-2	
		<hr/>	21-2
		<hr/>	487-2

## Provision to sundries, Viz.

Provision Money paid the following from 1st to the 31st Instant.			
1 Subedar...	2 per day	15	
2 Jumledars...	1,25 pr. day	...	19-1-50
2 Havaldars...	75 pr. day	...	11-2-50
2 Naiques	75 pr. day	11-2-50	
51 Sepoys	Tomtoms		
Waterman	&ca	50	197-2-50
1 Sepoy	to the 13th and the 14th	50	1-2-50
1 Do.	to the Lin- guist from 20th to 31st...	50	4-3-0
		<hr/>	262-,-50

1 Purvoo	...	15-2-,,	
1 Persian Writer	...	15-2-,,	
2 Durbar Servants	...	7-3-,,	
1 Do. Do.	...	3-3-5	
2 Chopdars	...	7-3-,,	
2 Massal Men	...	7-3-2	
2 Summeraid Men	...	2-3-,,	
1 Cook	...	3-3-50	
1 Baker	...	3-3-50	
14 Hamals	....	54-1-,,	
1 Gardner	...	3-3-50	
2 Horse Keepers	...	7-3-,,	
4 Men belonging to Purvoo, Persian Writer &ca	...	15-2-,,	
	—————	155-,,-,,	
	—————	417-,,-50	

## To Charges Extraordinary.

Paid a Pattamar sent to Surat	...	8-,,-,,
Do. Josoods &ca sent in quest of the Kings Deserters	...	6-,,-,,
Do. the Durbar Josoods on their Hooley	...	9-,,-,,
Do. to Sundry Sepoys sent with Letters to Bombay this month	...	4-,,-,,
Anant Row Shetchew Servants gave them when he visited me	...	15-,,-,,
Paid for Matts	...	2-3-,,
Do. for one Ream Portuguese Paper with Hire	...	8-,,-,,

————— 53-0-0

## Stable Charges.

Hay ...	...	...	14
Gram ...	...	...	17
Shoes ...	...	...	3
Horse for Linguist	...	...	15
			<hr/>
			49-0-0

## Garrison Charges.

Paid for two Puchalls	...	1-3-,,
Jinajlee Oil for Guard	...	1-,,50
Coconut Oil for Arms	...	,,2-,,
		<hr/>
		3-1-50
		<hr/>
Rupees	...	...
		1,010-,,-,,

Poonah, 31st March, 1773.

Errors Excepted.

## April.

*H. Ali* **Thursday 1st.** I am informed from good Authority *and* that several Letters have passed between Heyder Ally and *Raghoba* Ragobah, and that Yesterday one from the Letters to the former was intercepted and immediately sent to Naron Row.

*Raghoba* **Friday 2nd.** This morning I am told that Ragobah *confined* found means, notwithstanding the Secret Watch kept over His actions, to advance money Privately, by which he had got together seven or eight Thousand Horse, which were to have joined Him on His going to His Tent, which He meant to do in a day or two. But Naron Row by some means got intelligence of it, and has sent order for His not being suffered to go out of the Palace. One of the Principal Emissarys in this Affair is seized and sent to Nassick, and *Gopikabai* two others have Escaped. It is said Gopikabai, Naron Rows Mother, is doing all she can to persuade her Son to

remove Sacaram Bappoo from the Duan Ship,<sup>1</sup> and that He appoint in His stead Moroba Furnees; and it's thought by many He will succeed, as the Prince Dislikes and Dreads Sacarams growing Power.

**Sunday 4th.** Ragobah was this morning by Naron *Raghoba* Rows Orders made a Close Prisoner in the Palace.<sup>2</sup>

**Monday 5th.** News this morning arrived in Town *Shuja-ud-daula* that Sujah Dowlah, having attempted to throw a Bridge over the Gungah, which Vissajee Punt Destroyed; and to Retaliate for this 2,000 of our Troops were sent up the River in Boats, and surprized Vissajee's Camp, killed many and retired with great part of their Baggage; but as the truth of this Intelligence cannot be Depended upon, shall not Advise my Superiors till it's Confirmed.

**Wednesday 7th.** The Commands of the Hon'ble the *Bombay orders* Board of the 1st Instant, as entered hereafter,<sup>3</sup> came to hand this morning. Their Directions Respecting my Correspondence with the Chief of Broach shall be strictly attended to, as also their Orders about the Revenues Collected at Jambooseer [*Jambusar*], should the Durbar again mention it to me. Tho' I do believe this Government sincerely wish to get Broach out of Our Hands either for themselves or Fyttysing, yet from the Present Temper they are in I see very little Prospect of being able to bring them to think of an Exchange of Territory. I heartily wish it was in my Power to Induce them to come into our

1. Gopikabai's anxiety to see Sakharam Bapu deprived of his office was partly due to the latter's opposition to Raghoba's arrest. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 697)

2. Raghoba's imprisonment is likewise mentioned eleven days later on Thursday April 15, 1773; see also Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 696-97.

3. The instructions are more fully explained in the letter immediately following.

Views;<sup>1</sup> to this purpose I have already, and will again, on their mentioning it, point out to them the great Advantages that will accrue to them from having that Place in their Possession. Tho' I am Convinced the recalling the *Bombay* *sepoys* will have a very Strange appearance with these People who attend more to outward show than real merit, yet Conformable to their Possitive Orders, I shall return the whole, except Six they are pleased to permit me to keep as Hircarrahs (which are as few as can be Dispenced with), as soon as the Permission can be procured from the Durbar for raising Peons. The Board agreed with me, at my leaving Bombay, the number of Sepoys I brought with me were absolutely necessary to keep up that Respect the Hon'ble Companys Representatives should have at this Court; yet being as desirous, as they can be, of lessening the *Saving* *money* Expences of my Hon'ble Employers, I shall agreeable to their Recommendation reduce them to a Jumledar, Havaldar, Naique, 30 Peons, Trumpeter and Waterman. This will be a Decrease of twenty three Men, which, added to the Provision Money, will be a considerable saving; but I do not believe I shall be able to get People to serve for less than is usually given at Bombay, as the Sircar give much more, but Carcoons Deductions make it nearly equal; and more particularly as provisions Here, such as they live upon, are much Dearer than in the Concon; which renders it impossible to Comply with my Superiors Commands respecting the allowance of Provision Money to the Factory Servants; for was I to stop it, not one of them could stay with me. I am extremely sorry to find the Board deem my Expences in general too high, as I have in every *Accusa-* *tions re-* *sented* Department, intrusted to my Charge, made it my Study to be as frugal as possible, and since my arrival Here in some

1. The English wanted to exchange Broach for Bassein, Salsette and Karanja.

Respects more so than the nature of my Situation and the Custom of the Place will with Propriety admit ; however I will still Endeavour to bring them into a narrower Compass.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at  
POONA.

*Letter  
from  
Bombay*

Sir,

We have received the several Letters you have *A Chief*  
Addressed Us ; since We last wrote You, The situation of *at Broach*  
Affairs at Broach having Induced Us to Determine to send  
a Member of Our Board to Preside in the Management of  
Affairs there and to Establish it as a Chiefship independent  
of Surat, We have appointed Mr. William Shaw Chief, and  
Direct that You Correspond with Him and Advise Him of  
such Intelligence as it's necessary He should be acquainted  
with ; but we recommend to You on this Occasion to  
mention nothing the truth of which You are not fully  
assured of.

As the last agreement between the late Nabob and the *Jambusar*  
Pundit of Jambooseer was of five years standing, during all  
which time the Nabob Collected about the Share noticed  
in the Account You Transmitted to the Select Committee,  
we have therefore directed that the Sum the Nabob in  
Consequence received shall annually be Continued to be  
Collected ; and should the Durbar renew this Subject, we  
have no doubt but that, when You inform them of this  
Circumstance and that we mean to take no more than the  
Nabob did, that they will be easily satisfied.

As the Durbar appears from Your Advices to be very *Broach*  
Desirous of acquiring Possession of the Town and the Terri-  
tory of Broach, You must, after recapitulating the great  
Advantages that will accrue to the Morattahs from having



it in their possession, desire to know (on the Subject being again mentioned to You) what Equivalent Possession they would give, that may be equally Beneficial to the Company, should We be induced to part with it ; for We have no Intention on any Account whatever of accepting a Pecuniary Consideration. Such an Opportunity might be a very proper one for informing them what Particular Possessions would be most acceptable.<sup>1</sup> But of this You, who are on the spot, must be the Proper Judge, after duly weighing Your Instructions and the Commands of the Hon'ble Company on this Subject.

*Bombay* We direct that You return hither the whole of the  
*sepoys* Detachment of Bombay Sepoys, except those really necessary as Hircarrahs, not to exceed six in Number ; and You are to hire such Peons at Poonah, as may be proper, hoping a less number will be sufficient than the sepoys You  
*Saving* have at Present ; by this a considerable saving will accrue  
*money* to Our Hon'ble Employers by their pay being less ; it will also be quite unnecessary for You to furnish those You may hire with Provisions ; and understanding that Poonah is a Cheap place, We direct that no Provision Money to Your Servants be Charged to the Hon'ble Companys Account. We likewise in general recommend that You be more frugal in Your Expences than by Your Account Disbursements hitherto received You appear to be.  
 Bombay Castle, 1st April, 1773.

We are Your loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

BRICE FLETCHER

DANIEL DRAPER

"

BENJAMIN JERVIS

"

NATHANAEL STACKHOUSE

ROBERT GARDEN

"

1. The most acceptable possessions were of course Salsette, Bassein, Karanja.

**Friday 9th.** This morning a Chokey was placed by *H. Ali's* Order of the Durbar on Heyder Ali's Vackeel, Appajee *vakil* Ram, for having wrote His Master the Substance of a Conversation between Him and Ragobah.<sup>1</sup>

**Saturday 10th.** It is said Naron Row will this Day *Narayan* leave Teur and come to Town to-morrow, which is sooner *Rao* than was expected; for the 14th was fixed for His Entrance.

**Sunday 11th.** Early this morning Naron Row arriv- *Haidar's* ed at Sangome, where He stays untill the 14th. About ten *vakil* o'clock Heyders<sup>2</sup> Vackeel was carried out to Him, where after being Zorebunded<sup>3</sup> (that is floged with a Horses Martingal<sup>4</sup>) he was loaded with Irons, and send to Pronder Fort. This will most likely cause a Rupture between Heyder and this Government, who are already much Dissatisfied with Heyder for not remitting the amount agreed on by the last Treaty. It is reported in Town that the Party *The* of men, sent from hence some time ago under the Com- *Bhonsle* mand of Ballajee Palondiah to the Assistance of Sabajee *quarrel* Bouncello<sup>5</sup> against His Brother, Moodajee, have had an Engagement, and most of them killed and their Officer Wounded.

1. *Diary*, April 1 and 2, 1773.

2. "In the south Haidar Ali was still more aggressive. Aware of the disputes between Narayanrao and Raghunathrao, he had through 1773 carefully equipped his army to be ready at a moment's notice." (Kincaid and Parasnis, *A History of the Maratha People*, III, 107)

3. I am indebted to Professor S. M. Sayeed Reza of St. Xavier's College, Bombay, for the following explanation: Zorebunded is an anglicised form of the Arab *zoreba*, a past tense, passive voice, meaning 'was beaten' from the verb *azarbo* to beat.

4. A martingale is a strap fastened at one end to the nose-band, and at the other end to the girth of horse, to prevent rearing.

5. Appendix No. 19.

*Letter to*        **Monday 12th.** Sent the Linguist early this morning  
*Bombay* with Compliments of Congratulations to Naron Row and  
 His Ministers on their return from Gungapore, and also  
 Addressed the following Letter to the Hon'ble President  
 and Council in answer to their Commands received the 7th.  
 To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*The Chief*        I had the 7th Instant the Pleasure to receive Your  
*of Broach* Honor &cas Commands of the 1st, by which I learn You have  
 thought proper to appoint William Shaw, Esqr. Chief of  
 Broach. Your Orders with Respect to my Correspondence  
 with Him shall be particularly Obeyed, and I shall take  
 particular care to mention nothing but what I am well  
 assured of the truth of.

*Jambusar*        I shall obey Your Directions regarding the Revenues  
 of Jambooseer, should the Durbar again talk to me of it,  
 with which, I doubt not, they will be satisfied. I do believe  
*Broach* the Durbar are Anxious to get Broach out of Our Hands  
 either for themselves or Futtysing; and have and will  
 again, on their renewing the Subject, set forth the great  
 Advantages that must accrue to them from its being in  
 their Possession; And use every Argument in my Power to  
 bring them into Our Views; but I am doubtful whether  
 they will be brought to think of an Exchange, as the only  
 time it was hinted, the Duan seemed much Displeased at  
 the Idea of it, as mentioned in my Address of the 28th  
 January; and I shall not fail, if I find the Opportunity a  
 good one of pointing out to them what possessions will be  
 most Acceptable.

*Bombay*        Agreeable to Your Directions the whole of the Bombay  
*sepoys* Detachment of Sepoys shall be returned, except those You

permit me to keep as Hircarrahs, as soon as I can procure permission from the Durbar, which, it seems, is necessary, to raise others in their Stead; and have now sent the Subedar, 1 Havaldar and fifteen Sepoys; and tho' a respectable number is requisite to keep up that appearance and attention the Hon'ble Companys Representative should have at this Court, I shall Conformable to Your wishes reduce them to a Jumledar, Havaldar, Naique, 1 Trumpeter, 1 Waterman and 30 Peons, which will Lessen the number 23 Men; and You may be Assured I shall get them as cheap as possible. But Your Honor &ca must have been *Council's mistake* misinformed with respect to the Price of Provisions at Poonah, as I can assure You every Article the Common People live on is much dearer than at Bombay, as You may please to observe by the Enclosed Account. I therefore shall wait Your Further Directions before I strike off the Provision money to the Factory Servants; for was I to do it, there is not one of them could stay with me.

I am sorry to find You are pleased to deem my Expenses in general too High; I have made it my Study to be as frugal as my Station and the Custom of the Place will admit; however my best Endeavours shall be Continued to bring them into as narrow a Compass as possible. There *Shuja-ud-daula* has prevailed in Town, for several Days past, sundry reports respecting the Morattah Army in Hindostan.<sup>1</sup> Some say they have had an Engagement and have been defeated by Sujah Dowlah; others that they have retired not daring to Venture a Battle; but all agree that they have retreated on this side the Jumnah. I have not as yet been able to come at the real truth of this Affair; and all the Letters are kept Secret, which makes me believe the news, whatever it may be, is not favourable to the Durbar; but

1. See Strachey's Account in Appendix No. 25.

as soon as I can get any certain Intelligence relative thereto, will not fail to communicate the same to Your Honor &ca.

*Raghoba* Some days ago Ragobah was made Prisoner,<sup>1</sup> and chowkeys were set round the Palace; the Pretence for doing it, as I hear, is his having wrote a Letter (which was intercepted) to Heyder Ally; and it's reported He has raised Six or Seven thousand Men near Poonah. The Durbar are exceedingly Jealous of Him, and therefore keep a very watchfull Eye on every one they think He may have any Connections with. They three days ago put a Guard on *Haidar's* Appajee Ram, Heyders Vackeel, for having wrote His *vakil* Master a Conversation that Passed between Ragobah and *Mostyn* Him; and I am apprehensive they privately watch me, as *watched* for some days past I find People are very Cautious how they come near me.

*Haidar's* Naron Row Yesterday Morning arrived at Samgome *vakil* and makes His enterance the 14th. Immediately on His Arrival, He sent for Heyders Vackeel, and after having Zorebunded him, sent Him in Iron to Pronder Fort;<sup>2</sup> this will probably cause a difference between these states.

*Various* The above, with Ragobahs behaviour and a Dispute that *items* has lately happened between their Officer Ballajee Palondiah and Moodajee Bouncello, in which the Former, it's said, is killed, will most likely give this Government some more trouble before the Rains. The Detachment of Sepoys, now sent, have received Provision Money to the 15th Current.

Poonah, 12th April, 1773.

I remain very respectfully,  
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servant.

1. Taylor closely follows Mostyn's *Diary*. See Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 251.

2. Appendix No. 28.

**Tuesday 13th.** This morning sent to the Chitnees to *Hiring* Desire He would acquaint Naron Row I wanted to hire *peons* some Peons in lieu of the Sepoys I brought with me, which I meant to return to Bombay.

**Wednesday 14th.** This Evening Naron Row came *N. Row* into Town.

**Thursday 15th.** Sent to Hurry Punt to acquaint Him, *Hari* if He was at leasure, I would wait on him. He returned me *Pant* word that, being obliged to attend at the Durbar, He could not see me to-day; but if he had time to-morrow, would send for me; also sent to the Chitnees to desire He would *R. Chitnis* enquire and let me know when It would be proper to pay my Respects to Naron Row, as I supposed it would be necessary on His return from Gungapore. He returned for Answer He would speak to His Master and will let me know when it would be most agreeable.

I am this Evening informed the Durbar have been all *Raghoba* Day examining into Ragobahs late conduct, and in Consequence, He is confined to His room with a Guard of 500 Men Placed over Him, and that many Persons who are Suspected to be in His Interest have been Seized, and sent into different Forts.

**Tuesday 20th.** Letters have this Day been received *Maratha* from Hindostan, which mention that a Battle has happened between Tookajee Holker Forces and part of Sujah Dowlahs, in which the Morattahs were Defeated<sup>1</sup> and their Commander narrowly escaped being taken Prisoner; also that the whole of the Morattah Army was to the Southward of the Calindah River, and Sujah Dowlah following them as fast as He could. Notwithstanding I have sent *Audience* every Day since Naron Rows Arrival to Hurry Punt and the Chitnees to request to see them or be admitted to an

1. See Strachey's account in Appendix No. 25.

Audience at the Durbar, I have not as yet been able to Obtain either ; and as I cannot Comply with the Orders of my Superiors respecting the Return of the Bombay Sepoys, till I can procure permission to raise Peons in their Stead, and also wanting much to speak about a House for the Rains, as the Garden I at present occupy will be uninhabitable during that Season without Alterations, Determined to send to Sacaram Bappoo ; and accordingly sent the Linguist to acquaint Him with the Delays I met with and to request He would procure me an Audience. He returned for Answer that to-morrow was an unlucky Day, but the Day after I should be sent for to the Durbar.

*Diplo-* **Wednesday 21st.** As Hurry Punt and the Chitnees  
*macy* were the Persons appointed by the Durbar to transact Business with me, it's possible they may take it highly amiss my having made application thro' the Duan ; therefore am determined not to endeavour to conceal it from them, but on the Contrary sent the Linguist to inform them that, having Congratulated Sacaram on his return, He enquired whether I had paid my Respects to Naron Row, and on being told I had not, offered to Introduce me.

*Maratha* **Thursday 22nd.** The last intelligence from Hindostan  
*defeat* is confirmed with the addition that the Morattahs have lost many of their Guns, some Elephants and most of their Baggage, and are everywhere retreating before Sujah  
*Haidar* Dowlah. There are also advices in Poona of Heyders  
*Ali* having a Considerable Army on Foot, with which He is levying Contributions from all the Southern part of the Country, particularly on the Pollegars, in the Interest of this Government and those who assisted them against Him last War ; for this Purpose He has sent Troops against the Rajahs of Chitaldrog and Sounore ; and it's believed He will Keep no Terms with the Durbar when He learns the Treatment His Ambassador has met with.

As the Hon'ble President and Council may attribute *Letter to* my Detaining the Bombay Sepoys to my neglect, Determined to inform them with my Reasons for the same and *Bombay* also of the above Intelligence; accordingly Addressed them the following Letter.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.,

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

I Last Addressed Your Honour &ca the 12th Instant, *Maratha* and I have the Pleasure to acquaint You that by Letters *defeat* received from Hindostan it is Asserted a truth that Sujah Dowlah has had an Engagement with the Morattahs, in which the latter lost about four or five thousand Men, most of their Guns and some Elephants; they were all Dispersed, but are Joining again, tho' retreating every where before the Victorious Army; the same Letters mention Sujah Dowlah Intends Marching to Dhilly to get possession *Haidar* of the King. Heyder, it is said, has on foot a very large *Ali* Army with which He is recovering Money and Plundering most of the Pollegars about the Southern part of the Country, particularly those in the Interest of this Government. He has sent for this Purpose Troops against the Rajahs of Chitaldrog and Sounore, and Plundered two or three Districts near Raolkondah; and it's believed He will keep no Terms with this Government when He hears of the Treatment of His Ambassador. Notwithstanding my *Audience* Daily applications, I have not yet been able to see either *delayed* Naron Row or any of His Minister, owing, I suppose, to their Time being entirely taken up about Ragobah and the Private Disputes between themselves; however hope in a few Days to have an Audience, when I shall not fail to



apply for permission to raise Peons agreeable to what I last wrote You.

Poonah, 22nd April, 1773.

I remain with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your most Obdt. Humble Servant.

*Audience* This afternoon, Conformable to Sacaram Bappoos  
*with N.* promise, I was sent for to the Durbar; and after being In-  
*Rao* troduced into a Private Apartment where Naron Row was  
sitting with most of the Ministers, and paying Him the  
usual Compliments, I was desired to retire with Hurry  
Punt and Ramajee Chitnees, when they asked me what  
Answers I have to give them to their Proposals regarding  
*Janjira* Jinjerah and Broach. To the first I should have been at  
a loss what Answer to have given, as my Superiors have  
not favoured with any Directions thereon, had not the  
President by chance in a Private Letter mentioned that the  
Durbar had made these very Offers some time ago, and  
that they were rejected; therefore I acquainted them, as  
the Proposals they made me were no more than they had  
long since offered, the same reply they then received would  
now suffice. They said by the Treaty made with Chimna-  
jee Appah<sup>1</sup> We were bound to stand Neuter in Case they  
broke with the Sciddee; for by that [*treaty*] their Friends  
or Enemies were Ours. This I confuted by Explaining the  
Treaty, and asked them what Opinion would they form of  
Us, were we Capable of Violating our Engagement; but  
was it possible We could be brought to Enter into their  
Views, they had as yet pointed out no Advantages that  
*Broach* would arise therefrom to the Hon'ble Company. Here  
they dropped this and came again to the Subject of Broach.

1. Appendix No. 22 and Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*,  
I, 704.

In Answer to which, agreeable to my Superiors Commands, I plainly told them we could not by any means accept of their offers, or indeed part with it at all for Money; and that it was needless for me to point out to them there was but one method besides, which might probably Induce Us, on account of the Friendship we had for this State, to give it up to them. They immediately replied they supposed that was an Exchange of Territory. I said of Course it could be no other; and what Particular Territory, they were well-acquainted with. As they said no more on this Head, I Judged it prudent not to renew it, or even necessary to explain to them the Particular Places that would be most acceptable; for by doing it they might be induced to think we wanted to get rid of the Place, and in my opinion [*we*] rather retard than forward their making such offers as can be accepted. On my taking *Hiring* leave I requested to know if they had any Objections to *peons* my raising 30 Peons, instead of some Bombay Sepoys I meant to return; and also as the Place in which I now resided, was by no means proper to live in during the *Mostyn's* Rains, Hoped they would Order me a House (for with- *quarters* out the Durbars leave it is impossible to get one) which would be sufficient to accommodate me during that Season; to both which they promised me an Answer the next Day.

**Saturday 24th.** Yesterday Letters were received at *Maratha* the Durbar from Vissajee Punt Benewallah, acquainting *defeat* them of the late Defeat of the Morattah Army and Requesting Immediate Assistance, which, if not sent, recommended the care of His Family to them, as he never Expected to return to Poonah. This afternoon orders were Issued by the Durbar for Collecting a Body of Troops to send to the Assistance of Ballajee Palondiah, as the late News of His defeat is Confirmed.

*No reply to requests* **Monday 26th.** I have sent twice a Day since my last Audience at the Durbar to Hurry Punt and the Chitnees to Desire an Answer to the two Request I then made ; and notwithstanding they promised to give it me the next Day, I have not even Yet been able to obtain it, but have been continually put off with Evasive and Frivolous Replys ; however as the Chitnees has now sent me word He will wait on me in the Evening, and Hurry Punt that He will sent for me to-morrow without fail, I am Determined to know the Reasons of this Behaviour. This Evening Ramajee Chitnees, agreeable to His message, called on Me ; when I asked Him what could be the reason of the Difficulties I met with in geting an Answer to the Two Trifling requests I mentioned to Hurry Punt and Him at the Durbar, He told me they had no objections to my raising Peons ; but with Regard to a House they had Yet come to no Resolution, and [he] fancied I should be obliged to remain where I was ; and as a Secret Hinted to me He had heard they had thought of Dispatching me before the Rains. On which I set forth to Him in the strongest Terms the impropriety of such a step after what they had wrote both the Hon'ble Company and President and Council, and also the ill Consequences that might Attend it ; for it would most likely be looked upon as Breach of Friendship ; and added if they had any Objections to my remaining here, they ought to have made them at first, and not now when they had publickly Consented to it. He replied they were not Yet resolved, but as soon as they came to a Determination, He would acquaint me. As the whole of the above passed in Private, Determined not to take any notice of it to my Superiors till I see Hurry Punt (which will be to-morrow), who will, I suppose, mention it Publickly to me if the Durbar really mean to send me away.

*Hari Pant* **Thursday 27th.** This afternoon waited on Hurry

Punt and Desired His Answer to my raising Peons and Respecting a House; That as the Durbar had out of Regard to the Friendship, which had so long subsisted between them and the Hon'ble Company, permitted my Residing Here as their Representative, of which they had advised both the Hon'ble Company and Governor and Council, It was necessary some Place should be fixed for my Abode; and tho' I had hitherto been very well accommodated in Govind Shewrams Garden, Yet it would be very Inconvenient for me to remain there during the Rains, there not being proper Conveniences for that Season either for myself or People; therefore Hoped they would no longer delay telling me whether they would give me another House or permit of my staying where I was, that I might have time to erect the Necessary Places for my Attendants; for it would be now impossible, even were they to give me a Piece of Ground, which they had so long promised, for a Factory, to build one Habitable before the setting in of the Rains. He replied the Durbar had no Objections to my raising Peons, and my observation was Just regarding a Piece of ground, therefore needless to be pitched upon for some Months. But with respect to a House they had none Empty that was Convenient; therefore believed I must remain where I was. However He would again speak to Naron Row, and give me a final Answer as soon as He could obtain one. He then Recapitulated what passed *Exchange* Between him and me at the Durbar, the 22nd, about *of places* Jinjerah and Broach, and requested I would Explain what Particular Places We wanted in Exchange for the latter, as He did not understand me in the General Terms I mentioned. Tho' I am well Convinced He is perfectly acquainted with Our Wishes, Yet as I found He chose the Places should be particularly named, I told Him there was Salsette, Basseen, Carenjar and the Lands about Surat;

and as I now had opened myself to Him, desired He would also be Candid and tell me what they would offer in case  
*Bankot incident* We should be Induced to part with it. This He seemed to think Extraordinary, and Evaded giving me an Answer by Immediately quitting the Subject and Complaining to me of Bancoot River being again stoped; and asked me in very Plain terms what could be the Reason for it, as no Complaint had been made to the Durbar, which, He imagined, should be first done, otherwise He saw no use in my remaining here; and if satisfacion was not then given, it would be time enough to go to Extremities; however if this was to become a Custom, they too could stop Rivers.

Notwithstanding I could not help thinking his plea Just, I told Him there certainly must have been some very good reason for it, otherwise it would have not been done; but I would write the Governor about it, and hoped it would not happen again without their being first advised of the Cause.  
*Mostyn's suggestion* It appears strange to the Durbar that anything which Affects them should be put into Execution without my first Advising them of it, or even [*without my being*] able to give a Reason for its being done, particularly as the Publick motive, given by the Hon'ble Company for having a Resident Here, was to prevent trifles of this nature interrupting Our Friendship; therefore, I am Determined to request the Governor, whenever He Judges it necessary to do a thing of this kind, He will enable me to Advise the Durbar with the reason for it; and probably by a Proper Representation it may then become unnecessary.

*Threatened dismissal* As Hurry Punt has not mentioned or even hinted the Durbar have any thoughts of Dispatching me, but on the Contrary told me, as above, about a Piece of Ground for a Factory, I imagine, if they really had any such thoughts, that what I said to the Chitnees has prevented their putting

them into Execution ; therefore think it unnecessary to advise the Board thereof.

This evening received a Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George in Answer to mine to their Board under the 26th February. *Letter from Madras*

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Sir,

Your Letter to the Board of the 26th February hath been duly received, and we are much Obliged to You for the Intelligence You have been pleased to Communicate to Us, as We shall [*be much obliged*] for such further Advices as may appear to You necessary for our Information ; and that this may be done with the more safety, We have requested of the Gentlemen at Bombay to forward Us a Copy of the Cyphers used by You in Your Correspondence with them. We hope to receive it by the Ships Expected from thence, of which We shall Advise You as soon as it comes to Hand. Having nothing Material to Communicate to You respecting the Affairs on this Coast, We have only to wish You success in Your Negotiations [*negotiations*] and to Assure You We are with Esteem,

Fort St. George,

Sir,

3rd April, 1773.

Your most Obedt. Humble Servts,

ALEXANDER WYNCH

JOSEPH SMITH

JOHN SMITH

J. M. STONE.

**Wednesday 28th.** An agent of Sabajee Bouncellos, *Sabaji* who arrived two Days ago with large Present, had an *Bhonsle* Audience at the Durbar this morning.

**Thursday 29th.** The Durbar received Letters this *Maratha* Evening from Vissajee Punt Benewallah in twenty three *defeat* Days, by which they learn that Him and Tookajee Holker had determined to Endeavour to Surprise Sujah Dowlahs

Camp; and Day break in the morning was fixed for the Attempt; but whether by chance or Private Intelligence Sujah Dowlah and the English that same night, about twelve o'clock, surprized Vissajee's Army and Destroyed many of His Troops.

*Raising troops* **Friday 30th.** Many of the Ministers went this morning to Samgome to Muster all the Troops, Horse and Foot in and about Poonah, which amounted 12,000; and on enquiry into their motive for it, am informed they mean to send Mahomed Esoof with some Troops to the Assistance of Scirry Fort,<sup>1</sup> which they are afraid apprehensive Heyder will Attack, as some of His Forces are gone that way. They also mean to send 5,000 Men to the Assistance of Sabajee Bouncello, whose Ambassador came here some Days ago to Solicit Succours against Moodajee; the remainder are to be kept here in readiness to attend Naron Row, in case Moodajee should think of coming this Way, of which they are in some measure fearful; and to prevent a surprize they have fixed Express Camels as Dand Chokeys on all the Roads leading to Berar, at 20 Coase Distance, to bring daily intelligence of His Motions.

*Accounts* The Disbursements for this month being Closed are as follows :

Extract of Account Disbursements for the Residency of Poonah for April 1773.

To Factory Charges as per account at large ...	482--,,
„ Provision money to sundries ...	349-2--
„ Charges Extraordinary ...	39-1--
„ Stable Charges ...	37-2--
„ Garrison Charges ...	10-1-50
	<hr/>
Rupees ...	918-2-50

Poonah, 30th April, 1773.

1. Sira Fort, see Appendix No. 30.

May.

**Saturday 1st.** This afternoon I am informed Naron *Rumours* Row has also fixed Express Camels on the Road to *of war* Seringapatnam to bring Intelligence of Heyders Motions. It is also said the Nizam has taken the Field with 15,000 Men, and is now at Aulond Village, raising more Troops. The Durbar have received news that Moodajee is at Beer<sup>1</sup> with about 40,000 Horse; and it's generally thought, if He comes one Days Journey this way, His Intention must be against Poonah; I shall use my best Endeavours tomorrow to learn if this is true, in which case I purpose detaining the Bombay Sepoys which I meant to send away soon.

**Sunday 2nd.** I was this morning informed by a *Mudaji* Person very Conversant in Affairs that Moodajee Bouncello *Bhonsle* was still near Naugpore<sup>2</sup>; and from the latest Advices the Durbar learnt He intended taking a Circuit to the northward and coming down by the way of Gungpore near Nassick; but that His Younger Brother, Bimbajee, was near Beer with 25,000 Horse, who, it is supposed, means to come this Way. Naron Row has ordered some Troops to the Assistance of Sabajee Bouncello, and others to be Assembled; but the Disputes amongst the Ministers make it doubtful if they will be got ready in time.

1. Bhir in Hyderabad State on the Bendsura river. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, VIII, 117)

2. Nagpur. Raghuji Bhonsle profited by the dissensions between the Gond Raja, who was the ruler of Nagpur, and his brother, to seize the kingdom, allowing the Gond Raja to retain the outward insignia of royalty (1743). Raghuji ruled at Nagpur till the year of his death in 1755. He was succeeded by Janoji, on whose death in May, 1773, his brothers fought for the succession till one shot the other on the battlefield of Panchgaon, 6 miles south of Nagpur. Mudaji then carried on the regency till Raghuji II ascended the gadi. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XVIII, 306-307)



*King of Tanjore* This Evening I am Informed the King of Tanjore<sup>1</sup> has sent an Ambassador hither with Presents to the amount of six Lack of Rupees to request Permission to raise Troops for the use of His Master ; if this should be true, the Forces must certainly be meant to Act against the Carnatick ; therefore will use my best Endeavours to get thoroughly acquainted with this Affair and Advise the Gentlemen of Madrass with the whole, as it may be of the utmost Consequence to that Presidency.

*M. A.'s vakil* **Monday 3rd.** Dadah Row, Mahomed Ally Cauns Vackeel, returned to Poonah and paid me a Visit.

*King of Tanjore* **Wednesday 5th.** Upon the Strictest enquiry I find that one Mohim Geer, a Gosain, is certainly arrived here as an Ambassador from the King of Tanjore, and has obtained leave from Naron Row to raise ten thousand Horse for His master, and makes no secret at the Durbar of their being intended to act against Mahomed Ally Caun. The Peshwahs Colours have also been requested, and that the People be employed in the His Name, which is not yet granted ; yet I fancy the Ambassador will find great Difficulty in raising Men, as the Morattahs are Enlisting People as fast as they can for themselves ; however I should not fail to Remonstrate against this measure to the Durbar, if my doing it would not give them a just plea to do the same against Our Assisting Sujah Dowlah, with whom they are at War ; but I have Advised Mahomed Ally Cauns Vackeel to set forth to them in the strongest Terms the impropriety of this Step and to acquaint His Master with it, as I shall immediately do the Select Committee at Fort St. George.

*Mudaji Bhonsle* **Thursday 6th.** Last night an Express Camel arrived from Balajee Palondiah, which brought Letters to acquaint Naron Row that Moojajee Bouncello with the greatest part

of His Army was marching with all possible speed towards Hyderabad, Destroying everything as He went, which made it impossible for Him to keep up with Him or to get Provisions for His Forces. He [*Palondiah*] also Advised Him *Poona in danger* [*Naron Row*] to be upon His Guard, as 15,000 Thousand of Moodajees best Horsemen had left His Army suddenly, and which way they are gone He could not learn; therefore they might possibly intend Coming to Poonah. The *Financial straits* Troops Ordered some time ago by the Durbar to be got in readiness come in but very slowly, owing to the very low State of the Treasury; and no part of their Revenues are Due, or can with any Propriety be recovered till Dessorah (or next September); therefore the only resource left them is to Borrow from the Ministers<sup>1</sup> or Shroffs; and this is a Doubtful one as the former are unwilling to lend on account of the Disputes amongst themselves, and the latter from the Present Situation of the Durbar do not think the State a sufficient security, for which reason they will not Advance any Money if they can avoid it.

Judging it necessary my Superiors should be advised of *Letters to Bombay* the Situation of Affairs as also with what has passed between the Durbar and me, Addressed the Board and Select Committee the following Letters.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &c Council on

BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

My last Respects waited on Your Honor &c the 22nd *Peons and quarters* Ultimo, and that Evening I was sent for to the Durbar,

1. It would prove useful to ascertain to what extent this practice, casually mentioned by Mostyn, obtained in Poona; for if it was habitually resorted to, it would satisfactorily account for the dissensions among the ministers.

where after paying the usual Compliments to Naron Row, I retired with Hurry Punt and Ramajee Chitnees, and desired to know if they had any Objections to my raising 30 Peons; also requested they would provide me with a House, which they long ago Promised, as the Bungalow I was now in, tho' very well for the fair Season, is by no means proper to live During the Rains; to these they promised me an Answer to next Day, notwithstanding which it was the 27th before I could get a sight of Hurry Punt, when He made an Apology for not seeing me sooner, and told me they had no Objections to my raising Peons, but as to a House they had none Empty. I must therefore stay where I was, and they would make it as Convenient as possible, and after the Rains would think of pitching on a Piece of Ground for to build on.

*Hindu-* There is nothing new that I can learn with Respect to  
*stan* the Armies in Hindustan; all Intelligence to the Durbar from that Quarter is kept a profound secret, and the Shroffs and Merchants are fearfull of Discovering any  
*Mudaji* news against the Government. The Durbar is under  
*Bhonsle* great apprehensions of a visit from Moodajee Bouncello, who is at the Head of Forty Thousand Men; they have therefore placed an Hundred Hircarrahs<sup>1</sup> and twenty six Express Camels as Dank Chokeys<sup>2</sup> all the Way to Beer to give them Daily Intelligence of His motions; and by the last Advises He with a Part of His Army is making forced Marches to Hyderabad, it's said, in Hopes of rescuing the Nizam out of the Hands of His vizier,<sup>3</sup> who is entirely at

1. Appendix No. 22.

2. Dank, dawk or dak. A dak-choki is described as a post-house. "Akbar established posts called dak-chokis in all his dominions." (Hobson Jobson)

3. Nizam Ali's vizir was Rukn-ud-daula. By that time the Bhonsle quarrel had assumed unexpected proportions. Sabaji was

the Disposal of this Durbar. The remainder are near Beer, Commanded by His Youngest Brother, Bimajee, and, it is said, Joined by Baboojee Naique, whose Son was lately married to Ragobahs daughter ; whether these will come this way, or wait Moodajees return is uncertain ; but the whole Town seems to be in a general Alarm, & Naron Row has Issued Orders for Collecting Troops as fast as possible. Sabajee Bouncello, who is supported by this *Sabaji* Government has wrote pressinglly for Assistance against *Bhonsle* His Brother, notwithstanding the Reconciliation said to have taken place some time ago, & Naron Row has promised to send Him 5,000 Men in addition to those under Ballajee Palondiah.

Heyder Ally is, as before Advised Your Honor &ca, out *Haidar* with a large Army, and threatens the Attack of Scirry, *Ali* Mudgurry and Gorumcoondah ;<sup>1</sup> they have Ordered some Forces under Mahomed Esoof, but Trimbuck Row Mama<sup>2</sup> is the Person appointed to Command in that Part, & will proceed as soon as He returns from Nassick. The Durbar have also fixed 25 Express Camels at 20 Coase Distance to bring Intelligence of Heyders Motions. This Governments *Confusion* Affairs in General wear but a very unpromising Aspect ; *in Poona* the Division in the Family, the Violent Parties in the Ministry, the very low State of their Treasury, the wretched Situation of their Army in Hindostan, with the Dispute between them and the Bouncello, and what they may supported by the Peshwa and Rukn-ud-daula. Mudaji counted among his followers his younger brother, Bimaji, and Babuji Naik. The latter's support was not likely to make things easier in Poona for Raghoba ; for he was the father-in-law of Raghoba's daughter.

1. The three places here mentioned are Sira, Mudgere and Gurramkonda ; see Appendix No. 30.

2. No better commander could have been chosen ; for on March 5, 1771, Trimbak Rao had utterly defeated Haidar Ali at Cherkuli near Seringapatam.

expect from Heyders Resentment, seems to Indicate their being soon Involved in War and Confusion all around.

*Threaten-  
ed attack*

From what I have set forth, there is great Probability some of the Bouncellos People will pay Poonah a Visit. I have therefore taken the liberty of detaining the Bombay Sepoys, tho' Peons are Enlisted, untill I am able to Judge how Affairs are likely to go, which a few Days must now explain, as the Season is too far Advanced to admit of any delay ; and should any Disturbance happen, the Country People in that case are not to be Trusted ; therefore hope Your Honor &ca will not Disapprove of it.  
Poonah, 6th May, 1737.

I am with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most obedt Humble St.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Members of the Select  
Committee of  
BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*Janjira*

I last did myself the Pleasure to Address Your Honor &ca the 16th March, since which nothing relating to my Negotiations Occurred till the 22nd Ultio, when I was sent for to the Durbar, where after paying my Compliments to Naron Row on His return from Gungapore, I was desired to retire with Hurry Punt and Ramajee Chitnees, who asked me what Answers I had to give them regarding Jinjerah and Broach ; to the first I acquainted them the Proposals they made me the 14th March were no more than they had before Offered ; therefore the same reply they formerly received would now suffice. They said by the Treaty made with Chimnajee Appah<sup>1</sup> we were Bound

1. Appendix No. 22.

to stand, Neuter in Case they broke with the Sciddee ; for by that [*treaty*] their Enemies or Friends were Ours. This I confuted by Explaining the Treaty, and added what opinion would they form of Us, were We capable of Violating our Engagements to the Sciddee ; but was it possible We could be brought into their Views, they had as Yet pointed out no Advantages that would arise therefrom to the Hon'ble Company. They now come again to their *Broach* Offers for Broach, which, I plainly told them, we could not think of accepting or of any money at all ; and should we be induced to part with a Place of that Consequence both to them and Us, it was needless for me to point out there was but one method besides, that might possibly, out of the Regard we had to their Friendship, bring Us to give it up to them. They replied they supposed that was an Exchange of Territory ; I said it could be no other, and with what particular Places they were well acquainted with.<sup>1</sup> Here they dropped this Subject, and I Judged it prudent not to renew it ; for had I done it, they might imagine we wanted to get Rid of the Place, which would most probably retard their making such Offers as might be acceptable to Your Honor &ca.

On the 27th I waited on Hurry Punt, when He Reca- *Visit to*  
pitulated the whole of the above Conversation, and Desired *Hari Punt*  
I would explain to him what particular Places would most likely induce Your Honor &ca to an Exchange, as He did not understand it in the General Terms I mentioned. Tho' I am convinced He must be perfectly well acquainted with our wishes, yet as I found He chose they should be particularized, I told Him there was Salsette, Caranjar, Basseen and the Lands about Surat ; and as I had now, Conformable to His request, opened myself to Him, desired He would also be Candid and tell me what Offers they would make in case

1. Bassein, Salsette, Karanja.

We should be brought to part with the Place in Question. This He seemed to think Extraordinary, and Evaded giving me an Answer by turning the Conversation to another Subject; but before I took leave, He told me He should acquaint Naron Row with what had passed, and hinted that He would send for me to the Durbar; and talk to me about it; however I have not since heard ought relative thereto.

*Letter* A few days ago I was favoured with a Letter from the  
*From* Select Committee at Fort St. George, which only acknow-  
*Madras* ledged receipt of mine to their Board, and informs me of their having applied to Your Honor &ca for a Copy of the  
*King of* CIPHER delivered to me. A few Days since, a Gosamy by  
*Tanjore* name Mohim Geer arrived here as Embassador from the King of Tanjore<sup>1</sup> with presents to the Amount of Six Lacks of Rupees for the Durbar. He is come to request assistance against Mahomed Ally Caun; this the Durbar have refused, but have given Him leave to raise Ten thousand Horse, which, I imagine, is more with a view to get the money than to afford Him any real Succour, as they are raising People themselves. He has also requested their Colours, and that the Men may be employed in the Pesh-wahs name; this is yet undetermined. I should not fail to remonstrate against this measure; but was I to do it, it would undoubtedly give the Durbar a good plea for doing the same against our Assisting Sujah Dowlah; however I have Advised Dadah Row, Mahomed Ally Cauns Vakeel to set forth in the strongest light the impropriety of this step and to Advise His Master of it, as I shall immediately the Select Committee at Madrass.

Poonah, 6th May, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
 HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
 Your most obedient Humble Servt.

1. Appendix No. 29.

**Sunday 9th.** I am this morning informed that not- *King of*  
withstanding the King of Tanjores Vackeel some Days ago *Tanjore*  
by means of Pressure to some of the Ministers obtained a  
Promise of leave to raise Men, Yet it is a Doubt whether  
He will succeed in geting an Order for it, as Sacaram  
Bappoo is much against it. I therefore will wait a Day or  
two, till I see how this Affair will terminate, before I advise  
the Gentlemen at Fort St. George thereof. I also Learn that *Maratha*  
the Morattah Forces are all retreating from Hindostan, *retreat*  
and it's Supposed that they will Quarter for the Rains about  
Ugen;<sup>1</sup> Sujah Dowlahs Army continues still on the Banks  
of the Jumnah, and is now Demanding Agrah of the Jauts  
in the name of the King. Moodajee Bouncello is by all *Mudaji*  
Accounts struck out of the Road to Hyderabad, and is *Bhonsle*  
retired into Berar.

**Monday 10th.** A pair of Cossids, Just arrived from *Sabaji*  
Hyderabad, I am told, bring Intelligence that 12 Days ago *Bhonsle*  
a Battle was fought about 20 Coase to the Southward of *defeated*  
Nagpore between the two Brothers Moodajee and Sabajee  
Bouncello, in which the latter was beat with a Considerable  
loss of Men.<sup>2</sup> As soon as this news reached the Durbar,  
Naron Row repeated His orders to the Different Officers  
for them to repair to Poonah with all their Force as fast as  
possible, and also ordered one Madah Row Sadasew, for-

1. Ujjain is situated in the centre of Malwa. In 1743 Baji Rao Peshwa became its deputy-governor; it passed to Sindia in 1750, and was the chief town of his dominions till 1810, when Daulat Rao Sindia founded his new capital, Lashkar, (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XXIV, 114-115)

2. Mostyn does not mention a battle which took place in January, 1773, at Khumbargaom (Kumbari) near Akola, in which Mudaji was defeated. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 698)



merly resident at Mahomed Ally Cauns Court, to get Himself in readiness to proceed as His Vackeel to Sabajee Bouncello, with Instructions, it's said, to Endeavour to settle matters between the Brothers ;<sup>1</sup> but this Embassy I should suppose, is only to amuse ; for were the two Brothers to Join, this Government would be in a worse *Troops* Situation than it is at present. Five thousand Horse, it's said, are to set out in a Day or two to Join Ballajee Palondiah ; and Ruchnah Dowlah, the Nizam's Vizier, is also raising Men to send to the Assistance of Sabajee Bonncello. Letters received Yesterday bring News that Heyder Ally continues levying Contributions, and that He has totally laid waste the Rajah of Chitaldroogs County.

*Reprisals*      **Wednesday 12th.** This evening three Men, belonging to the Morattah Vackeel at Hyderabad, arrived in Town, and Bring Intelligence that their Master has a Chokey put on Him, and a Pagodah He was building has been erased to the Ground by the Nizams Order.

*King of Tanjore*      **Friday 14th.** The King of Tanjores Vackeel has not yet been able to procure the Durbars order for raising Troops ; and indeed was He to get leave, it will be impossible for Him now to get People ; but as it's highly necessary that the Gentlemen at Fort St. George should be acquainted with the views and Inclinations of the King of Tanjore, I addressed the following Letter to the Select Committee of that Place.

1. The Peshwa's agent at last procured a cessation of hostilities. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 698) Grant Duff mentions the Peshwa's peace-move immediately after the battle of Kumbhari, whilst it seems to have been made after Sabaji's defeat in April, 1773.

To

*Letter to  
Madras*

THE HON'BLE ALEXANDER WYNCH, ESQR,  
President and Governor &ca. Members of the  
Select Committee at  
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

I had the Honor of Your Commands of the 3d Ulti- *King of*  
mo the 27th following, and this is purposely to advise you *Tanjore*  
that some Days ago a Gosame by name Mohim Geer, who  
has been here some time, applied to this Durbar as Vackeel  
from the King of Tanjore for leave to raise ten thousand  
Horse for the service of His Master, and which He made  
no secret were to be employed against Mahomed Ally Caun.  
He at first by means of Presents to some of the Ministers  
had a Promise of leave, of which I advised my superiors at  
Bombay under the 6th; but since the Duan has started  
objections, and I believe He will not succeed; tho' was He to  
obtain permission, He would find it very Difficult to raise  
Men, as the Durbar are enlisting People as fast as possible  
for themselves. Should He hereafter procure leave, and  
any probability of his geting the Troops, I will not fail to  
advise Your Honor &ca.

Some time ago Intelligence was received from Hindo- *Moratha*  
stan that part of Sujah Dowlahs Army had an Engagement *defeat*  
with the Morattahs, in which the latter lost about 4,000  
Men, some Field Pieces and Elephants; and by the latest  
advices has retired to the southward of the Jumnah, and  
Sujah Dowlah intended marching to Dhilly.

The Dispute between Moodajee and Sabajee Bouncello *Sabaji*  
still subsists, and a General Battle was fought the 28th *Bhonsle*  
Ultimo, in which Sabajee was entirely routed with the loss *defeated*  
of all His Guns, Baggage and about 8,000 men. This has  
thrown the Durbar into some Consternation, and is their  
motive for raising all the Troops they can, in which they

Advance but slowly owing to their want of Money and the Dispute amongst themselves which still Continue. Naron Row has Ordered 5,000 Horse in addition to some He had sent before under Ballajee Palondiah to the Assistance of Sabajee, but the above Intelligence put a stop to it, and they now talk of Forming a Camp at Sciddy Tank<sup>1</sup> about 35 Coase to the Eastward of Poonah ; which I understand is to prevent Moodajees Intentions of coming this way, of which they have been apprehensive for some time.

*Raghoba's* Ragobah is again made a Close Prisoner in the Durbar,  
*arrest* the pretence for doing it is his carrying on some Scheme  
*H. A.'s* prejudicial to the Government with Heyder Allys Vackeel,  
*Vakil* who was also Plundered, Floged, loaded with Irons and sent Prisoner into one of their Forts. It is not yet certain how Heyder will take it, but [*it is*] supposed from His Disposition He will highly resent this Affront, more particularly as He has a large Army on foot, with which He is raising Contributions from all the Pollegars round Him, in the Interests  
*The* of this Government. The Cipher I correspond with is the  
*cipher* small one framed in March 1755, No. 2, or B, and sent out the same Year in the Dodington ; and tho' that ship was lost, I presume Your Honor &ca must have received a Duplicate of it. But as the former part of this Letter, I Judge, is of consequence for you to be informed of, I have ventured to send it in Common writing for fear you should not have the Cipher above mentioned.  
 Poonah, 14th May, 1773.

I have the Honour to be very respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most obedient Humble Servt.

1. I am indebted for the following information to Mr. G. S. Sardesai. Sidh-Tek is situated on the Bima near Dhond. It is one of the 8 sacred shrines of Ganapati, the family deity of the Peshwas, which they never failed to visit when they had to decide some weighty matter.

**Saturday 15th.** Observing, as I Yesterday passed the Durbar, an unusual number of Guards, stationed round the Walls, I sent this morning to enquire the reason of it, and am informed that a Letter was a few Days ago intercepted from Moodajee Bouncello to Ragobah, which is the Cause of His being thus Publickly made a Close Prisoner. But it's supposed by most to be all a Forgery,<sup>1</sup> the better to give Colour to Naron Rows harsh Treatment of His Uncle; for I hear it is no more than what Naron Row promised His Mother He would do, when He visited Her at Gungapore. I am told the 5,000 Horse to be sent to the Assistance of Ballajee Palondiah, are countermanded; and Naron Row now talks of forming a Camp at Scindy Tenk about 35 Coase to the eastward of Poonah. *Faked conspiracy Troops*

**Sunday 16th.** This morning the Mucherdum of Pattamars informs me a pair of Cossids arrived last night from Surat, who met a set of Pattamars going to Bombay from Hindostan, who acquainted them they had been a Month from Dhilly, and had Letters from the King and Sujah Dowlah, and that at the time they came away Sujah Dowlah with the English had crossed the Gunga, it was thought, with an intention of Marching to Dhilly. *Shuja-u daula*

**Tuesday 18th.** Reports now in Town totally contradict the news of Moodajees having beat Sabajee; but I am apt to believe this is industriously spread by the Durbar to blind the People and hide their own Disagreeable Situation. Appajee Ram, Heyders Vackeel,<sup>2</sup> is released and came into Town last night; and I hear Naron Row intends endeavouring to satisfy Him for the late Gross Affront put on Him, and return Him to His Master with Presents. *The Bhonsle quarrel H. A.'s vakil*

1. Taylor's statement to the same effect (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 251) is not in the nature of corroborative evidence; it is merely a repetition of Mostyn's assertion. Taylor was prejudiced in Raghoba's favour.

2. *Diary*, April 11, 1773.

*Bombay* **Saturday 22nd.** As Moodajee Bouncello still continues in Berar, and it's thought by most to be too late for Him to Attempt aught against Poonah till after the Rains, Determined, Conformable to my Superiors Orders, to return the whole of the Bombay Sepoys, except the six they permit me to keep and two I have detained to be Havaldar and Naique of the new raised Peons, as none Trusty enough for these Offices can be met with Here. I accordingly *Letters to* addressed the Board and Transmitted them my accounts *Bombay* for the last three months, and also wrote the Select Committee acquainting them of the impediments the King of Tanjores Vackeel has lately met with.  
To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.  
President & Governor &ca Council on  
BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*S. Bhonsle* My last Respects waited on You the 6th Instant, since *defeated* when Letters have been received here, advising of a Battle fought the 28th Ultimo between Moodajee and Sabajee Bouncello, in which the Latter was defeated ; this has induced the Durbar to send Madah Row Sadasew, formerly Vackeel at Mahomed Ally Cauns Court, with presents to Endeavour to Compromise matters between the Brothers, *Troops* & persuade them to make Peace with this Government. The 5,000 Horse, ordered to the Assistance of Sabajee, are countermanded, and the Durbar now talk of forming a Camp about 35 Coase to the Eastward of Poonah. Moodajee being still in Berar, it's thought too late for Him to attempt ought against Poonah before the Rains. I have *Bombay* therefore returned the whole of the Bombay Detachment, *sepoys* except the six You permit me to keep and two I have taken the Liberty of detaining, to act as Havaldar & Naique with a Waterman, who are willing to remain without

Provisions and will be paid here ; a List of the three last is Enclosed for Your notice, that their pay may be stoped at Bombay from the 1st Instant.

Heyders Vackeel, Appajee Ram, is released, and came *H. A.'s* into Town last night ; and I hear Naron Row Intends endeavouring to satisfy Him for the late Insults put upon Him. Enclosed Your Honor &ca will receive my Account Dis- *Vakil*bursements for the last three months, the Balance being Rupees 3814,"2,"30 You will please to order to be paid to Brice Fletcher, Esqr. The amount Presents in February appear high, but are what could not be avoided, and as little as could possibly be given. *Accounts*

Enclosed is also a List of Stationary, which I am much *Stationery* in want of, therefore I request You will order it to be complied with before the Rains.  
Poonah, 22nd May, 1773.

I am with respect  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
Your most obedt. Humble Servt.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBX, ESQR.  
President & Governor &ca Members of the  
Select Committee at  
BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

I Addressed Your Honor &ca last the 6th, since when *King of* I have not heard anything from the Durbar, nor have any *Tanjore* of the Ministers mentioned ought with respect to my Negotiations, tho' I have Visited them all. I advised You in my last the King of Tanjores Vackeel had obtained leave to raise ten thousand Men for the service of His Master ; this He got privately by means of Presents to some of the Ministers, and in Consequence applied to several Officers to raise Men ; this coming to Sacaram Bappoos knowledge,

He put a stop to it by pointing out the Ill Consequences that might attend it ; and tho' He has Yet received no positive denial, I am pretty sure He will not Succeed. Notwithstanding the above Objections were made, before I addressed the Gentlemen at Madrass, Yet I thought it necessary they should be Advised of the King of Tanjores application.

Poonah, 22nd May, 1773.

I am very respectfully.  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

*Armistice* **Thursday 27th.** It is reported in Town, I know not with what truth, that a Cessation of Arms has taken Place in Hindostan between the Morattahs and Sujah Dowlah ; but the latter has declined entering into any Treaty with the Officers there, and, I hear, means to send an Embassador to settle matters here with Naron Row.

*Accounts* **Monday 31st.** The Disbursements for this month being closed, they are agreeable to the following Extracts.

Extract of Account Disbursements for the Month of May 1773, viz.

To Factory Charges including the new raised			
Peons Wages ...	...	...	690-1-0
„ Provision money including the Sepoys sent			
to Bombay ...	...	...	302-,,-0
„ Garrison Charges	...	...	33-2-50
„ Stable Charges ...	...	...	36-,,-,,
„ Extraory Charges	...	...	51-1-,,
<hr/>			
		Rupees	... 1,112-,,-50
Errors Excepted.			

Poonah, 31st May, 1773.

June.

**Tuesday 8th.** Received the following Letter from *Letter from Bombay*  
 Mr. Secretary Skipp.  
 To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at  
 POONAH.

Sir,

I am Directed to return two of your Sepoys and to *Sepoys*  
 acquaint You that Your Several Letters to the Hon'ble the *and*  
 President and Council to that dated the 22nd Ultio have been *letters*  
 duly received.

Bombay Castle, 3rd June, 1773.

I am Sir,

Your most Obedt. Humble St.

GEORGE SKIPP,

Secry.

**Thursday 10th.** This morning the Chitnees by the *Poona*  
 Durbars Order paid me a Visit to Complain of the Gentlemen *com-*  
 at Broach having sent a Force and Plundered and forced *plaints*  
 from the Amaldar<sup>1</sup> of Ahmoode a large Sum of Money ;  
 which surprized them the more, He said, as they some time  
 ago had Delivered me the Account Revenues legally due  
 from the Purgonnahs of Jambooseer and Ahmoode,<sup>2</sup> agree-

1. Aumildar, properly amaldar, means one holding office, a factor, a manager. Among the Marathas the amaldar was a collector of revenues. (Hobson-Jobson) "In the town of Acklesseer [Anklesvar] there is a tana or chowkey belonging to the castle, where formerly four or five horsemen used to reside. These were under the orders of an amaldar or Collector appointed by a Killedar." (Forrest, *Selections, Home Series II*, 109.) The Killedar is the commandant of a fort, castle, or garrison. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. The Pergunnahs of Amod and Jambusar. A pergunnah is a sub-division of a district.



able to which, Naron Row had flattered Himself, we would have Collected them ; but was very sorry We had taken *Mostyn's* this step without first Advising them. I told Him I had *reply* transmitted the Account Revenues they delivered me to my Superiors, and they in reply thereto had informed me it was nearly conformable to the last Agreement made between the Pundit of Jumbooseer and late Nabob of Broach ; and therefore they had ordered that sum to be Continued to be Collected, of which I should have long since acquainted the Durbar, had they ever mentioned that Subject ; but as they did not, I supposed all matters were accomodated. I also added that I could not help thinking they had been misinformed in the whole of this Complaint, as I could not suppose our Gentlemen had Demanded or Collected any more than was our due ; nor would have made use of Force, could they have done without it ; and as to Advising Naron Row of our Intentions of recovering such Revenues as were our Just due, I thought it quite unnecessary. The Chitnees then told me He would inform Naron Row of what I had said, and took His leave.

*The* Letters were yesterday received from Madah Row,  
*Bhonsle* this Governments Vackeel to the two Bouncellos. But as  
*quarrel* He has not yet had an Audience with either of them, He does not mention how the affair is likely to Terminate ; and the Intelligence in general, both with respect to them and the other Country Powers, is so incoherent and Contradictory that I cannot with any degree of Certainty inform my Superiors either of their present Views or Future Intentions. Tho', from what I can learn, the Morattah  
*Maratha* Troops in Hindostan are actually retreating, and the three  
*retreat* Officers, Madjee Scindy, Tookajee Holker and Vissajee Punt Benewallah, have been Ordered to Poonah, the latter  
*Haidar* only has obeyed, and, it's said, is on His way Hither accom-  
*Ali* panied by a Vackeel from Sujah Dowlah. Heyder has been

employed by all accounts the best Part of this Season in reducing the Corack<sup>1</sup> Rajah, the effecting which has cost Him much Blood and Treasure.

**Friday 11th.** The Chitnees this morning sent for the Linguist to acquaint Him that the Durbar Last Night received Letters from Seuram Appajee, Amaldar, acquaint-<sup>Maratha com-plaints</sup> ing of the Particulars of what He mentioned Yesterday to me, by which they learn the English at Broach had sent two thousand Men, and Plundered Ahmoode, and carried the Amaldar Prisoner to Broach. This, He added, was carrying things great lengths, and Disagreeable Consequences might attend it; and that I might be Better informed of the whole, He told the Linguist, if He would come to Him in the morning, He would give Him the Letters to shew me.

**Saturday 12th.** This morning, agreeable to the Chitnees Desire, the Linguist waited on Him, and returned with a Carcoon of Sacaram Bappoos, who brought the Letters &ca, when I desired He would give me a Copy of them with the List of things mentioned therein, which He accordingly did. As this affair may become a serious one, I judged it proper to hear what the Duan had to say on the Subject; therefore Ordered the Linguist to go to him in the morning and acquaint him I should be glad to wait on him when He was at leisure.

**Monday 14th.** After repeated messages, Yesterday and to Day, I was with much Difficulty this evening admitted to an Audience of the Duan, when after the usual Compliment I acquainted Him with what had passed between the Chitnees and me respecting the Purgonnah of Ahmoode, and also that I had Perused the Letters from the Amaldar, Seuram Appajee; from the whole of which I

could draw no other Conclusion than that Our Gentlemen at Broach, finding they could not recover the Revenues legally our due (which was what the late Nabob recovered) by fair means, were under the necessity of sending Force. He replied it did not signify if we had recovered 5,000 Rupees more or less, they could do the same ; but whatever the late Nabob recovered more than the account delivered me was by Force and Contrary to the Settlement made in Nannas time, for which reason they could not agree to our recovering more than that Settlement specified. However if we were determined to take it, we might ; they then would be obliged for a time to give up some other Affairs they now had in hand, and attend to that alone. I told Him, notwithstanding what He had said, I could not believe our Gentlemen had recovered more than was our due, particularly so as all kind of Violence was Contrary to Our Maxims of Government ; however Conformable to the Durbars request, I would acquaint my Superiors with it, and send them Copies of the Letters and List of things said to be taken away ; and when I was favoured with an Answer, would inform them with Purport thereof.

*Deserters*      **Tuesday 15th.** In the evening John Turmane and Richard Smith, two Englishmen, came to me and requested to be sent to Bombay ; they tell me they Deserted from the London, Captain Webb, at Goa.

*Untoward  
event at  
Anjanvel*      **Wednesday 16th.** This morning Carimboy Borah, the man that carried the Order for the delivery of the Vessel detained at Anjinwell,<sup>1</sup> came to me, complaining that Bica-jee Punt, the Subedar, had refused delivering the Stores belonging to Her, and only gave Him ten Pieces of Coir Rope and one Anchor ; however with this He made shift

1. Anjanvel, a port and fort in Ratnagiri District. It was in the hands of the Marathas from 1755 to 1818.

to repair one side of the Vessel ; but on requesting more stores to Complete Her, instead of Complying therewith, the Havaldar<sup>1</sup> and Subneese<sup>2</sup> came and took away the Anchor they had before given ; therefore as soon as the Tide came in, and the Vessel Floated, she drove ashore and was overset and totally wrecked. The Man then intended to come immediately to Poonah, but was not permitted without giving a receipt for the Vessel, which He refused to do ; they then imprisoned Him and forced one from Him, on which they sent a Man with Him here. As it appears the Subedars Disobedience to the Durbars Orders has been the Cause of the loss of the Vessel, by which the Proprietors thereof have suffered a Considerable Loss, it may be made a good Counterbalance to the Durbars Complaint about Ahmoode ; I therefore immediately sent to the Man with the Linguist to the Chitnees to set forth to him in the strongest light the unaccountable behaviour of their Officer and the great loss the Owner of the Ship had sustained thereby, and to desire He would acquaint Naron Row with the same as soon as possible.

**Friday 18th.** This morning the Duan sent for the *S. Bapu's* Linguist and told Him He had that Instant received Letters *threat* from Broach, advising Him the English had certainly taken 25,000 Rupees from the Amaldar of Ahmoode, and that He had also Intelligence some Disputes had arose at Surat between Our Gentlemen and their Choutiah.<sup>3</sup> He said He was sorry to find there was no end to these Disputes. However the Durbar would wait untill Dessorah to settle

1. "The chief person or killidar, in the command of a fortress, was termed havildar." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 195)

2. "Every fort had a clerk.....Brahmin (who) was termed subnees. He was sometimes styled dufturdar." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 195 and 200)

3. Revenue officer.

them. I can put no other Construction on the latter part of this Message (as Dessorah is the time these People generally take the Field), but that the Duan meant to insinuate they would endeavour to do themselves Justice, in case everything was not settled to their Satisfaction by the time He mentions.

Having closed the following Address to the Board, I was under the necessity of adding the above message in a Postscript.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQ.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*Reference to letters* I last Addressed Your Honor &ca the 22d Ulto, since which I have received Mr. Secretary Skipp's Letter of the 3d, wherein He acknowledges receipt of all mine to that time.

*Maratha complaints* The 10th Instant Ramajee Chitnees paid me a Visit by Order of the Durbar to Complain of the Gentlemen at Broach having Plundered and forced a large sum of Money from the Amaldar of Ahmoode. He said Naron Row had flattered himself We would have collected the Revenues of the above District agreeable to the account some time ago Delivered me, but was sorry to find the Contrary; and was very much surprized that Force had been made use of, before He had been informed of the Cause; and then, if redress had been refused, it would have been time enough to have had recourse to Arms. I acquainted Him with my having sent the above Acct to Your Honor &ca and the Directions you had given regarding the Revenues of Jumbooseer; and also that I made no doubt they had Collected no more than Our Just due; and could they have done it without Force, they would never have put the

*Mostyn's reply*

Hon'ble Company to that Expence. But as to informing Naron Row we meant to Recover Our Right, appeared to me unnecessary. The 11th the Chitnees sent for the Linguist and told him that the Durbar had received Letters from Seuram Appajee, the Amaldar of Ahmoode, acquainting them with the Particulars of the above mentioned Affair, by which they learnt the English had sent 2,000 Men, and entirely Plundered the Town of Ahmoode, carried the Amaldar Prisoner to Broach, and forced a Considerable Sum of Money from Him. This, He said, was going great Lengths, and Disagreeable Consequences might attend it. As this Affair, from the above, may become a Serious One, I thought proper, before I Advised Your Honour &ca thereof, to hear what the Duan had to say on the Subject, and in Consequence sent to Desire to be admitted to an Audience, which with much Difficulty, after repeated Messages, I obtained. When I informed Him of what had passed between me and the Chitnees, and that I supposed the Gentlemen at Broach, finding they could not Recover the Revenues usually received by the Late Nabob, had been under the necessity of sending a Force, He replied very short and said it was very immaterial if We had taken 5,000 Rupees more or less, they could do the same; but what the Nabob recovered more than the Account delivered me was by Violence and Contrary to the Settlement made in Nannas time; therefore they could not agree to Our receiving more than that Settlement specified; however if we persisted in our unjust claim, the Durbar in that case must for the Present give up some other Affair they had in hand, and attend to that alone. I told Him I should inform Your Honor &ca of the whole that had passed, and would acquaint Him with Your Answer. Enclosed You will please to receive copies of the Amaldars Letters to the Durbar and List of the things they say were taken away

*Renewed  
com-  
plaints*

*Audience  
with S.  
Bapu*

by our People ; and I request to be favoured with Your Directions thereon as soon as possible, as the Duan is very Urgent for an Answer.

*Anjanvel incident* I, some time ago, acquainted Your Honour &ca that I had obtained an Order for the Delivery of the Vessel detained at Anjinwell, but the man that carried it, returned and came to me, two or three days ago, Complaining that, tho' the Subedar delivered Him the Vessel, He refused giving Him any of the Stores belonging to Her, except ten Pieces of Coir Rope, one Anchor ; even with this, He made a shift to repara one side of Her ; when He requested more stores to Complete Her, instead of Complying, the Havaladar and Subedar came and took away the Anchor they had before given ; therefore as soon as the Tide came in, and the Vessel Floated, She drove ashore and was wrecked. On this the Man intended coming here, but was stoped, and a receipt for the Vessel Demanded, which He refused to give ; they then imprisoned Him and Forced one from Him. I have already sent the Linguist with the Man to the Chitnees to set forth in the Strongest Colours the very great loss the Proprietors of the Vessel have sustained, by Her Detention and total Wreck ; and I shall not fail, if You permit, to Demand full Restitution of this Government for the Ship and Cargoe, as soon as the exact amount is Asscertained, which I suppose must be a Considerable Sum, and will in some Measure be a Counterbalance to their Complaint against Our Gentlemen at Broach.

*Bhonsie quarrel* Moodajee and Sabajee Bouncello by all accounts are in the same Situation as mentioned in my last, the former being still in Berar. Letters have been received from the Vackeel this Durbar sent thither ; but by what I can learn, nothing particular in mentioned therein, as He has not Yet had a Conference with either of the Brothers.

I hear the whole of the Morattah Army in Hindostan *Maratha* is ordered to Retreat, and Vissajee Punt Benewallah with *retreat* that part of it under His Command is Directed to come to Poonah and, it's said, will be accompanied by a Vackeel from Sujah Dowlah.

There is nothing new with respect to Heyder Ally, ex- *Haidar* cept his having reduced the Coruch Rajah,<sup>1</sup> and He is now *Ali* Fortifying His new Conquest.

A few days ago two Englishmen by Name John Tur- *Deserters* mane and Richard Smith came to me and requested to be sent to Bombay. They Deserted from the London, Capt. Webb, and got into the Portuguese service, from whence they came here, and are now sent under a Guard of four Sepoys.

Poonah, 18th June, 1773.

I remain with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,  
Your most Obdt. Humble St.

P. S. Since writing the above, the Duan sent for the *S. Bapu's* Linguist and acquainted Him He had that Instant received *threat* Letters from Broach, by which He learnt the English had certainly taken five and Twenty thousand Rupees from the Amaldar of Ahmoode ; and also received Intelligence that some Disputes had arose at Surat between Our Gentlemen and their Choutiah. He added that the Durbar would wait till Dessorah to settle these Affairs. I can put no other Construction on the latter part of this message, but that the Duan meant to insinuate they would Endeavour to do themselves Justice in case everything was not settled to their Satisfaction by the time He mentions.

1. Coorg. The Conquest of Coorg is here mentioned on June 18, 1773, whilst according to the Mysore Gazetteer Haidar Ali invaded Coorg after Narayan Rao's murder which took place in August 1773. (*Mys. Gaz.* (1930) II, IV, 2508.)



*Sabaji* **Saturday 19th.** I am told an Express Camel arrived  
*Bhonsle* at the Durbar Yesterday from Sabajee Bouncello and Taver  
 Jung, which brought some Intelligence that Induced Naron  
 Row to Present Conde Row Derriher with a Sirpaw, and  
 Dispatch Him with Orders to Assemble a Body of 6,000  
 Horse at Scindy Tenk<sup>1</sup> where the Durbar talked some time  
 ago of forming a Camp.

*Bhonsle* **Wednesday 23rd.** Last night two pairs of Cossids  
*quarrel* arrived from Madah Row and Sabajee Bouncello, who were  
 quartered at Corrandiah,<sup>2</sup> which brought Intelligence to  
 the Durbar that Moodajee Bouncello, Ismael Caun,<sup>3</sup> and  
 Dariah Caun had Marched to Govad Coat,<sup>4</sup> where they  
 Intended lodging their Families, and that in the way they  
 had Plundered two or three Villages belonging to this  
 Government, and seized several Bramins. It is said  
 Ruchnah Dowlah<sup>5</sup> has Marched into Berar, but whether  
 to assist Sabajee or Endeavour to settle matters between  
 the Brothers, I cannot yet Discover. His Brother, Taver-  
 jung, and Ibrahim Caun Downsaw are also in Berar ; the  
 latter is gone against Ellispore [*Ellichpur*] and the former  
 to Nandeer.<sup>6</sup>

*Durbar's* The Durbar, I should suppose from their Behaviour,  
*fears* are apprehensive the Nizam may take some step in the

1. Sidh-Tek.

2. Karanja, in Akola District, Berar.

3. Mudaji Bhonsle "obtained the aid of Ismail Khan Patan,  
 Governor of Elichpoor." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I,  
 698) "The Nizam's son, Ali Jah Bahadur, was then appointed Go-  
 vernor (of Ellichpur), but he administered by his deputy, Ismail  
 Khan, the Afghan, the first of a succession of Afghan Governors."  
 (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XII, 20.)

4. Gavilgad or Gawilgarh, in Amraoti District, Berar.

5. Rukn-ud-daula the Minister of the Nizam. "The Nizam  
 joined Sabaji." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 698.)

6. Namdar situated on the Godavari river.

absence of His Vazir to the Prejudice of their Affairs ; for I am Confidently informed They Yesterday Dispatched fourteen pairs of Hircarrahs with a Naique to Hyderabad to bring daily news from thence.

The last news from Hindostan, of the English and *Maratha* Sujah Dowlah having crossed the Jumnah and Vissajee *retreat* Punts being on His way hither, was this Day Confirmed, with the Addition of Tookajee Holker and Madjee Scindy having retired, one towards Jainagur [*Jaipur*] and the other towards Agra.

**Thursday 24th.** This morning Letters arrived, which *Rukn-ud-* Confirm the News of Ruchnah Dowlahs being gone into *daula* Berar.

**Friday 25th.** The Chitnees paid me another Visit this *Maratha* morning by Order of the Durbar, when, after He had re- *com-* capitulated the whole of what had passed about Ahmoode, *plaints* He said, notwithstanding we had recovered from the Amal- dar 17,000 Rupees, they still Demanded 6,000 for the Expence of the Expedition ; this was certainly Contrary to all rule, and they Expected we would give it up and release the Prisoner and also return the things taken away by our People. I told him, as the Amaldars refusing to pay us *Mostyn's* what He knew was our due had been the cause of our send- *reply* ing a Force, it was but Just He should defray the charges of it ; and as to the sundries said to be taken away, it was impossible to say who had them ; therefore our being able to return them again was very Doubtfull. He in some measure acquiesced in this, but hoped what could be found might be restored ; and after a long Conversation on this Subject the Chitnees *R. Chitnis* consented in the Name of the Durbar we should recover *proposals* the same Revenues the late Nabob did, but expected in Consideration thereof we would remit the above 6,000 Rupees, release the Prisoners and return the Articles taken

away. In reply thereto I told Him I could promise nothing, but would Advise my Superiors with it; and on being favoured with their answer, would acquaint the *On other* Durbar with their Resolutions. Before He took leave, He *request* acquainted me that some Goods had been drove a shore at Ashoot, Ocleseer and Desborah<sup>1</sup> (which they call: Sichust), which had been seized by our People and carried to Broach, which was Contrary to all usage, and Treaty, and even what the Nabob never did; they therefore expected we would return the Goods and Issue Orders to prevent *Mostyn is* such Conduct in future. I cannot account for this sudden *puzzled* alteration in the Durbars behaviour otherwise than the Present Disagreeable situation of their Affairs (of which the Board are already acquainted) make it dangerous for them to risque breaking with Us for Trifles.

*Letter to* **Saturday 26th.** Wrote my Superiors the following *Bombay* Letter.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

*R. Chitnis* I last did myself the Pleasure to address Your Honor *visit* &ca the 18th Instant, and this is purposely to advise You that I was Yesterday visited by Ramajee Chitnees by the *Maratha* Durbars Order, when He Recapitulated all what I last wrote *com-* You, and added that, tho' the Amaldar of Ahmoode had *plaints* paid 17,000 Rupees the amount Revenues, Yet He with some others were detained Prisoners at Broach, and 6,000 Rupees insisted on for the Expençe of the Expedition. After I had *Mostyn's* set forth to Him in the Strongest light the impropriety of *reply* the Amaldars Conduct in refusing at first to pay what

1. Hansot, Anklesvar, Dehegebarch (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 287).

He knew was our Due, which obliged us to send a Force, and therefore it was but reasonable He should make good the Expence, the Chitnees consented in the name of the Durbar, notwithstanding what had passed between me and Sacaram Bappoo, to Our receiving the Revenues usually recovered by the Late Nabob. But He said in Consideration of this Concession on their Parts, they expected we would remit the Expences, set the Prisoners at Liberty and Restore such things as had been taken away. I replied with regard to the things taken, as it was impossible to say who had them, Our returning them could not be certain; and Concluded with telling Him it was not in my Power to Promise anything, but I would inform Your Honor &ca of what He had said, and would acquaint the Durbar with Your determination, on being favoured with Your Commands. Before the Chitnees took leave, He told me some Goods, that were drove ashore at Assoot, Ocleseer, and Desburah, had been seized by us and carried to Broach; but as it is contrary to Treaty and Custom, and what the Nabob never did, He said the Durbar Expected we would return them, and hoped we would Issue Orders to prevent the like in the future.

*A first request*

*A second request*

I, some time ago, acquainted Your Honor &ca of the Disagreeable situation of this Governments Affairs in general; otherwise you most probably would be at a loss how to account for this sudden Alteration in the Behaviour of the Durbar, who, I fancy, now begin themselves to think their affairs in too bad a state to venture to Break with us for Trifles.

*Mostyn's explanation*

By late Advices from Madah Row (this Governments Vackeel in Berar) the Durbar are informed that Moodajee Bouncello, Ismael Caun and Deriah Caun Intended lodging their Families in Govad Coat, had plundered some Villages belonging to this Sircar, and seized several Bramins; also

*Mudaji Bhonsle*

*Nizam* that Rucknah Dowlah, the Nizam's Duan, was on His  
*Ali's* March to Berar ; but whether to assist Sabajee or accomo-  
*minister* date matters is not Yet certain; this however has induced  
 the Durbar to Dispatch a Number of cossids to Hyderabad  
 to bring daily Intelligence of the Nizams motions.

Poona, 26th June, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
 HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
 Your most Obedient Humble St.

*Bhonsle* **Monday 28th.** Last night an Express Camel arrived  
*quarrel* from Sabajee Bouncello and Ballajee Palondiah, which  
 brings Intelligence that Taver Jung had Joined them, and  
 that Ruchnah Dowlah was at Nandeer about four Coase  
 from them, Ismael Caun and Deriah Caun remain still at  
 Govad Coat, but Moodajee Bouncello with the main part of  
*Hindu-* the Army is at Suringenarron. By the last Advices from  
*stan* Hindostan I learn that Nazib Caun with some English were  
 gone to Dhilly to put the City in Order, and also that the  
*Raghoba's* Jauts were in Arms. Two Days ago Appajee Madhew and  
*officers* Matter Surman, formerly Officers belonging to Ragobah,  
 were seized and sent Prisoners into Different Forts, being  
 detected in forming some Schemes for their Masters  
 Release.

*Letter* This Evening received a Letter from the President and  
*from* Council of Fort William, which, tho' dated the 22d April,  
*Calcutta* I find was not Dispatched till the 7th May. I should cer-  
 tainly have done as they are pleased to hint, Addressed my  
 Letter to the Select Committee, had there been ought Con-  
 tained therein improper to have been Publickly known ;  
 but as it was solely to advise them of my arrival and  
 permission to remain Here as the Hon'ble Companys  
 Resident, I Judged it proper to Address the Board at  
 large.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at POONA.

SIR,

The Letter which You wrote Us of the 25th February last only came to hand Yesterday, which was two Days beyond the time agreed on with the Cossids. It being Addressed to the President and Council at large, was received by Us accordingly. But as there is in this Presidency a Select Committee, formed on purpose for the Immediate Management of Political Affairs, consisting of the President, the Commander in Chief and the three Senior Members of Council, We desire that You may henceforward Correspond Directly with them, and follow their Directions as to the points of Your Enquiry and Information.

Fort William, the 22d April, 1773.

We are Sir,

Your most Humble Servants,

WARREN HASTINGS

THOMAS LANE

WM. ALDERSEY

JAMES LAWRELL

P. M. DACRES

H. GOODWIN.

**Wednesday 30th.** The Factory Disbursements being *Accounts* closed for the Month of June, an Extract is enclosed as follows:

**Wednesday 30th.** Extract of the Disbursements of the residency of Poonah for June 1773.

To Factory Charges including the Peons

Wages	...	...	...	690-1-,,
„ Provision to Sundries	...	...	...	165-,,-,,
„ Garrison Charges	...	...	...	7-2-50
„ Stable Charges	...	...	...	37-,,-50
„ Charges Extraordinary	...	...	...	88-,,-25

Rupees ... 988-1-25

Poona, 30th June, 1773.

Errors excepted.

## July.

*Maratha com-plaints* **Friday 2nd.** This afternoon the Chitnees sent to acquaint me by the Durbars Order that they had received Letters from Ocleseer and Assoot<sup>1</sup>, informing them that Our Gentlemen at Broach had sent to Demand Revenues from both these Places, threatening them with a Force if they did not Comply; this He said He thought a most Extraordinary Proceeding, as neither of these Purgonnahs ever before paid anything to Broach, being always under Surat; but now they demanded Revenues from them both at Broach and Surat; for these Reasons the Durbar Expected Orders might be Issued to put a Stop to this unprecedented Demand.

*Mostyn's reply* **Saturday 3d.** I ordered the Linguist this morning to wait on the Chitnees to tell Him I was totally unacquainted with the Affair He Yesterday sent to me about; but as I had so lately wrote my Superiors respecting Ahmoode [Amod] it would be needless to address them again, till I receive an Answer, as I had reason to think what I had already wrote would prevent in future any Disputes arising between Our Gentlemen at Broach and their Officers in Guzarat; and also that notwithstanding his message, I could scarce believe Our Gentlemen would have Demanded Revenues from those Places, if they had never paid ought to Broach before; therefore requested He would acquaint me with the Amount Demanded and the Reasons given for it, and also be Candid and tell me if the late Nabob did or did not ever Recover Revenues from Assoot and Ocleseer. *Maratha contention* The Chitnees returned for Answer that the Purgonnahs in Question are absolutely under Surat, to which they pay from twenty to twenty one

1. Anklesvar and Hansot. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 287)

thousand Rupees a Year ; and that Broach had no claim on either, but that the Late Nabob did five or Six Years ago by Force take something from them, and which the Durbar supposed was the Pretence for the Present Demand ; but as it was unjust, they requested I would write my Superiors regarding it.

Advices lately received from Hindostan mention that *Hindu-* Sujah Dowlah with the greatest part of His Army is retur- *stan* ned to Bengalah, and Our Troops to their different Cantonments, and Sujah Dowlahs Son with an English Officer and a few People are gone to Dhilly.

**Sunday 4th.** This Evening Letters were received at *H. Ali ill* the Durbar from Morah Row Gorparah and the Officer in Command of Scirry Fort,<sup>1</sup> which inform them that Heyder is dangerously Ill of a Cancer in His Back.

Conformable to the Durbars request, I wrote my *Letter to* Superiors the following Letter. *Bombay*

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Since my last of the 26th the Durbar have again *Maratha* complained to me of the Gentlemen at Broach having *com-* Demanded Revenues from the Purgonnahs of Ocleseer and *plaints* Assoot, threatening them with a Force if they did not Comply ; this the Durbar thinks the more Extraordinary, as they assert these Places never paid ought to Broach, but are immediately under Surat, to which they pay between twenty and twenty one thousand Rupees a Year ; they therefore desired I would immediately write to Your Honor &ca that a stop might be put to so unprecedented a

1. Sira in Mysore, see Appendix No. 30.



proceeding; and also added that the late Nabob once about five or six years ago forced some money from the above two Districts, which they imagine may be reason of the Present Demand; but if that was to be made a Rule for Our Conduct, We had an Equal right to Demand Revenues from almost every Village near Broach, as the Nabob had at times Plundered most of them.

*Hindu-* It is now mentioned for a truth that Sujah Dowlah  
*stan* with His Army is returned to Bengalah, and Our Troops to their different Cantonments along the Gungah, also that Sujah Dowlahs Son with an English Officer and a few People are gone to Dhilly, but on what Account I cannot yet learn.

*H. Ali* I have this Instant received Intelligence that Letters  
*ill* arrived this Evening at the Durbar from Morah Row Gorparah, and the Officer Commanding Scirry Fort, which mention that Heyder Ally is Dangerously Ill of a Cancer in His Back.

*Letter* The 28th Ulto I was favoured with a Letter from the Gentlemen at Fort William, which only acknowledges receipt of mine to them of the 26th Febry last.

Poonah, 4th July, 1773.

I am with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your most Obedt. Humble Servant.

*Letter* **Wednesday 7th.** This Evening received a Letter  
*from* from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, to which  
*Madras* a Due Obedience shall be shewn.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Sir,

*King of* Your Favour of the 14th May reached Us the 6th Ins-  
*Tanjore* tant. We are much Obligated to You for the Intelligence therein Contained, which nearly agrees with that We re-

ceived from the Nabob some days before. We have only to request that you will Continue to Advise Us of such Occurrences as may be necessary for our Information, and particularly with Respect to the Negotiations [*negotiations*] of the Vackeel of the King of Tanjore, and whether He is likely to succeed in Obtaining Permission of the Morattahs for obtaining any and what number of Cavalry or any other Assistance from them. The Commands of the Hon'ble Company received this Year recommend our Observing a Strict Neutrality between the Morattahs and Heyder Ally.

We are in Possession of the Cipher You mention, and in which You may therefore safely Correspond with Us.  
Fort St. George, 10th June, 1773.

We are with Esteem,

Sir,

Your most Obed. Humble Servants,

ALEXANDER WYNCH

JOSEPH SMITH

JOHN SMITH

J. M. STONE.

It is reported in Town that the Nizam has Ordered *The* His Tents out with an Intention of taking the Field in *Nizam's* Person. Conde Row Derriher has at last left Poonah with *Maratha* about 2,000 Horse, but it's supposed He cannot go far on *troops* Account of the Season and the insufficiency of the Force; for they would all be Cut off, were they to attempt to Join Sabajee; therefore it can only be with a view to spread a report of Assistance being sent.

**Saturday 10th.** I am told Naron Row is preparing *Placa-* a Sirpaw with two Elephants for the Nizam, which if true, *ting the* there is reason to think the Report of the Nizams intending *Nizam* soon to take the Field is not without Foundation.

**Tuesday 13th.** The Sirpaw with the Elephants were this day Dispatched to the Nizam.

**Thursday 15th.** Naron Row some time ago wrote *H. Ali's* Heyder for the Arrears of Tribute, which is in all about *tribute*

50 Lack of Rupees; and in reply thereto Heyder writes Him, if He will return the Forts and the Country Madah Row Conquered, He will Discharge His Demand.

*Nizam's minister* **Monday 19th.** Last night an Express Camel arrived from Ruchnah Dowlahs Army; the Letters Sacaram Bappoo has kept secret; but the Driver says Moodajee Bouncello was quartered within a few Coase of Ellispore<sup>1</sup> a Fort Belonging to Ismail Caun, who with about Ten thousand Men was Defending it against Ruchnah Dowlah Joined by Sabajee Bouncello.

*Dutch request* Letters have been lately received at the Durbar from the Dutch at Surat, the exact purport of which I have not been able to Discover, but suppose they are regarding their having leave for a Factory near Basseen. They Yearly send Presents with this view, of which I informed my Superiors, and am the more Certain this is their Intention, for the Dutch Gentlemen, on their return to Surat from Bombay, endeavoured to Enter into a Treaty to this Purpose with Trimbuck Ve Nique, Subedar of Basseen,<sup>2</sup> who refered them to Poonah, and at the same time wrote Naron Row, Enclosing their Letters and Proposals; to which an Answer was sent that, when they sent a Gentleman hither, the Durbar would Consider of their Request, and whether it was Consistant with other Treaties they had long ago entered into.

1. Ellichpur did not belong to Ismail Khan, who was its governor in the Nizam's name. As Ismail Khan had joined Mudaji, Rukn-ud-daula and Sabaji Bhonsle tried to capture the city.

2. Under the Peshwas the management of the district was nominally entrusted to an officer styled Sursubhedar. But as a rule these officers seem, at least during the latter years of the Peshwa's government, to have lived in Poona and to have deputed officers who were styled Mamlatdars or Subhedars to act for them. (*Gaz. Bombay Pres.* XIII, II, 555)

This Evening one Matthew Robins came to me, who *Deserter* says He deserted from the Terrible at Surat and Requests to be sent to Bombay.

**Tuesday 20th.** Letters lately received from Hindostan *Maratha* mention Vissajee Punts being at Jansey [*Jhansi*] near *generals* Seronge, [*Serony*] where He is Collecting Tribute, That Madjee Scindy is at Jainagur, and Tookojee Holkar at Endoor [*Indore*].

**Friday 23rd.** Yesterday advices were received from *Mudaji* Brampore, acquainting the Durbar that Moodajee Bouncello *Bhonsle* having left Ismael Caun to defend Ellispore, had with about 20,400 Horse made Forced marches to Jallgam and Maleapore, both belonging to the Peshwah, on which He had raised very Considerable Contributions.<sup>1</sup>

**Tuesday 27th.** By the last Accounts Moodajee Bouncello is Advanced so near Brampore that all the Inhabitants of the Country round have fled into the Town and shut the Gates.

**Thursday 29th.** This morning received a Letter *Letter* from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, and will *from* immediately use my best Endeavours to get the best Intellig- *Madras* ence regarding the Points they recommend, and advise them accordingly.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Sir,

We wrote you under date 10th June, and Duplicate of which comes Enclosed.

The Nabob having applied to Us for a Force to reduce *Raising* His Tributary, the King of Tanjore, who by His Conduct *troops* hath rendered Himself obnoxious to Him, We have complied

1. The Places mentioned are Buhranpur, Jalgaon, and Malkapur.

with the Nabobs request, and are now Collecting Troops and Stores at Trichinopoly with all Expedition.

*No fear of* We have no reason to apprehend any Interruption to  
*Marathas* our operations from the Morattahs at this time of the year, since they would not be able to pass the Kisnah. Indeed we do not believe that Our March against Tanjore will of itself be sufficient to Induce them to take any steps to the Nabob or Companys prejudice, unless it be convenient to them in respect to their Own Affairs, in which Case such an Expedition will not, we think, retard or hasten the Execution of any Designs they may have against the

*News* Carnatick. We have nevertheless thought it proper to  
*asked for* give you this early Information, as you will with Us see the necessity of keeping a most watchfull Eye on their Conduct and of Endeavouring to obtain the best Intelligence of their Designs, and which we Trust you will Communicate to Us as soon as possible with such Information as you may be able to obtain regarding the Treaty of the Vackeel at Poonah from Tanjore, and how far he is likely to succeed in obtaining a Body of Cavalry for His Master.

*Secrecy* We doubt not but Advice of the Intended Expedition against Tanjore will have reached Poonah before you receive this. We however think it proper that no intimation on the subject should come from you. By Advices  
*Maratha* from Bengal We learn that the Body of Morattahs, which  
*retreat* had for some time passed threatened the Provinces of Corah belonging to Sujah Dowlah, and Encamped near our Army for near three Months, had retired without being able to effect anything. This retreat, it is supposed, was owing to their recall to Poonah on the Establishment of the New Government<sup>1</sup>; indeed private Advices say that

1. The accession of Narayan Row to the Peshwaship.

they are actually on their March to that Place. We have *News* to be favoured from you with the most particular Intelli- *wanted* gence you can obtain as well as with an Account of the Effect which such a Junction may produce, or what measure the Morattahs may take in Consequence.

Fort St. George.

We are with Esteem,

Sir,

Your most Obedt Servts.

ALEXANDER WYNCH

J. M. STONE.

JOHN SMITH

Last night Naron Row suddenly Dispatched Vomom *Troops* Row, Brother to Gopal Row Meritzwallah, with Orders to go to His Government of Meritz<sup>1</sup> and there to Collect a Body of Troops, with which He is to keep Himself in readiness to obey any orders that may be sent Him.

**Saturday 31st.** A Pair of Cossids arrived yesterday *Attack on* at the Durbar from Madrass, sent by the Peshwahs Vackeel *Tanjore* there, acquainting the Durbar that Mahomed Ally Caun with the English were gone against Tanjore with 18,000 Men, Six thousand belonging to the former, and twelve to the Latter, and that the King of Tanjore had in all about twelve thousand. It is now reported that Moodajee Boun- *M. Bhon-* cello is returning towards Ellispore. *slc*

Judging it proper my Superiors should be acquainted *Letter to* with the purport of the Letters last received from Madrass, *Bombay* transmitted them Copies thereof, and wrote them the following Letter.

1. Grant Duff calls it 'Merich'. Meritz or Merich stands for Miraj. In 1761 the fort was assigned by the Peshwa to Govind Rao Patvardhan. (*Imp. Gaz. of India* XVII, 362; Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 692)

To

HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Members of the Select  
Committee at  
BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR &amp; SIRs,

*Copy of* I have been favoured with a Letter from the Select  
*Madras* Committee at Madrass, which Judging necessary Your  
*Letters* Honour &ca should be immediately informed of, transmitted  
 Copy thereof as also Copy of one received the beginning  
 of this Month in Answer to Mine of the 14th May. I  
 shall without delay use my best Endeavours to get the most  
 certain Intelligence as to the Points they recommend, and  
*Marathas* advise them thereof. At present there seems not the least  
*and* Probability of the Morattahs being able to impede their  
*Tanjore* Operations against Tanjore, as Moodajee Bouncello, who  
 has lately made great Ravages in this Country even to the  
 Gates of Brampore, will be the first Object of the Durbars  
 attention, and most likely find them Employment great  
 part of the ensuing Season. Naron Row, it is said, will soon  
 take the Field, but it will be a Considerable time before He  
*M. Bhon-* can assemble an Army capable to act against the Boun-  
*le* cello. They have Dispatched Vomon Row to Meritz to  
 put Forts in that District in a Defensible State and to  
 raise His Quota of Men (being Ten thousand), with which  
 He is to hold Himself in readiness to obey any Orders they  
 may send Him.

*Attack on* Letters were last night received by the Durbar from  
*Tanjore* their Vackeel with Mahomed Ally Caun, advising that the  
 Nabob Joined with our Troops to the number of 18,000  
 and had Marched against Tanjore.

Poonah, 31st July, 1773.

I am very Respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR &amp; SIRs,

Your most Obedt Humble Servt.

Factory Disbursements for this Month being Closed *Accounts* are Conformable to the following Extract.

Extract of account Disbursements for the Residency of Poonah for July 1773.

To Factory Charges	...	...	690-1-,,
„ Provision money to Sundries	...	...	170-2-,,
„ Stable Charges	...	...	35-,,-,,
„ Charges extraordinary	...	...	29-,,-,,

Rupees ... 924-3-50

Errors excepted.

Poonah, 31st July, 1773.

### August.

**Tuesday 3rd.** Moodajee Bouncello has retired from *Mudaji* Brampore [*Burhanpur*] & is returning by slow Marches *Bhonsle* towards Berar, continuing to Plunder and raise Contributions on all the Country and Villages in His way. It is reported Moodajee has sent a Vackeel to His Brother, Sabajee, to Endeavour to accommodate matters, that they may Jointly act against the Peshwah.

**Wednesday 4th.** Having gained the best Intelligence *Letter to* in my Power respecting the points recommended by the *Madras* Select Committee at Fort St. George, I addressed them the following Letter.

To

THE HON'BLE ALEXANDER WYNCH, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Member of the Select Committee at

FORT ST. GEORGE.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your Honor &cas Commands of the 10th June and 8th *Reference* July have been duly received, the former the 7th and the *to letter*



latter the 29th Ulto ; and Conformable to your desire I will proceed to give you the best information I can procure respecting the Points you recommend.

*Tanjore expedition* The news of your having sent stores &ca to Velam reached this Place some time ago ; and three days since Letters were received by the Durbar, advising that 18,000 Men had actually marched to Attack the King of Tanjore. From present appearances, there seems not the least Probability of the Morattahs being able to impede your operations, as Moodajee Bouncello (who has lately made great Ravages in this Governments Dominion even to the Gates of Brampore) will be the first object of the Durbars attention, and most likely find them Employment for some part of the ensuing Season. Notwithstanding the Durbar have Dispatched one of their Officers (Vomon Row, Gopal Rows Brother) to Meritz [*Miraj*] to put that District in a Posture of Defence, with Orders to raise His Quota of Men, and a Report that now prevails of Naron Rows soon taking the Field, yet I apprehend it will be some time before they will be able to Assemble an Army capable of Acting with success against the Bouncello.

*The vakil of Tanjore* The Vackeel from the King of Tanjore is still here, but there is not at present the least likelihood of His being able to obtain a body of Cavalry or any other Assistance for His Master from hence. Had the Durbar promised or even given Him hopes of Succour, I should not have failed to have Advised your Honor &ca thereof, agreeable to what I wrote you in my last.

*Maratha retreat* The return of the Morattah Army from Hindostan was not Occasioned by the late Change in Government, which was Effected without the least Disturbance, but [*was due*] to the Dispute that Subsisted between three Principal Officers for the Chief Command. They were Ordered to Poonah before Madah Rows Death, but evaded coming. Since Naron

Rows Accession they have been again Ordered, and are now Actually on their way to this place, but by all I can learn, bring few Troops with them, which, when joined with those the Durbar are now Enlisting, I fancy, will not be able to make a Diversion in Favour of the King of Tanjore, at least not till they have settled with the Bouncello.

This Court is at present so very wavering and Changeable in its Resolutions, owing to the Pride, Ignorance and Pusillanimity of the Prince and Inveterate Disputes amongst the Ministers, that it's hardly possible to know for a Certainty what their Intentions are, or to Rely on any thing they Determine on. However, you may rest Assured I shall attend with the utmost watchfulness all their Actions; and on being able to Discover anything that may affect your Presidency or the Carnatick, will not omit to send you the most early Intelligence thereof.

*Dissensions in Poona.*

Poonah, 4th August, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,  
Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

**Friday 6th.** Yesterday advices were received, that Ismael Caun had Obliged Ruchnah Dowlah to retreat a small Distance from Ellispore [*Ellichpur*], and that Moodajee Bouncello had seized the Foraging Parties belonging to the Moguls, also Plundered their Buzar, and taken all the Venjarah<sup>1</sup> Bullocks loaded with Provisions, going to the Army.

*The Bhonsle quarrel*

1. The Brinjarries of the Deccan are dealers in grain and salt, who move about in numerous parties with cattle, carrying their goods to different markets, and who in the days of the Deccan wars were the great resource of the commissariat, as they followed the armies with supplies for sale. "We met there a number of Vanjarrahs or merchants with large droves of oxen laden with valuable articles." (Hobson-Jobson). Hence Vanjarah bullocks mean bullocks belonging to the Brinjarries who used to follow the army.

*Visaji* It is reported in Town Vissajee Punt Benewalabs  
*Punt* Forces have stoped Him, declaring they will let Him come  
 no further without first receiving their Arrears of Pay.

*The* **Saturday 7th.** Advices came yesterday to the Durbar  
*Bhonsle* acquainting them that Moodajee Bouncello had left His  
*quarrel* Buzar and Baggage behind him, and had set out with an  
 Intention of Attacking Ruchnah Dowlah.

*Visit to* Dadah Row, Mahomed Ally Cauns<sup>1</sup> Vackeel, having  
*Dada* Visited me frequently since His return from His Family,  
*Rao* whither He went with Naron Rows leave four Months ago,  
 I judged it necessary to call on Him this morning, and on  
 taking leave, He tendered me in the name of the Nabob  
 a Diamond Ring valued Here from Twelve to fifteen  
 Hundred Rupees, which being more than the sum Limited  
 by the Hon'ble Company to be received without the Consent  
 of my Superiors, determined to advise them thereof, and  
 request their Permission to Accept it.

*The* **Sunday 8th.** Letters were yesterday received by the  
*Bhonsle* Durbar from Ruchnah Dowlah, informing Naron Row that  
*quarrel* Ismael Caun had Sallied out of Ellispore, and after a smart  
 Engagement and the loss of many Men, had been obliged to  
 retire ; that He [*Rukn-ud-daula*] had since raised Batteries  
 against the Place ; but that Moodajee Bouncello, having  
 heard of the Battle, had left His Baggage &ca behind Him,  
 and by Forced Marches was now come within three Coase  
 of Him.

**Tuesday 10th.** There is Intelligence in Town that  
 Moodajee and the Mogul have had an Engagement, in  
 which the latter was worsted and Obligated to retire some  
 Distance from Ellispore with the loss of three Cannon, four  
 Elephants and nine Hundred Horses and many Men.

1. The Nawab of the Carnatic.

**Thursday 12th.** Addressed the Hon'ble the Board the *Letter to*  
following Letter, Enclosing my Account Disbursements for *Bombay*  
May, June and July.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I last Addressed you the 14th Ultimo, since when *The*  
nothing very material has occurred here. The Attention *Bhonsle*  
of the Durbar is at present taken up with the Dispute *quarrel*  
between the two Bouncellos; they some days ago Dispat-  
ched Conde Row Derriher with two thousand Horse to  
Sabajees Assistance, and Ruchnah Dowlah has Joined Him  
from Hyderabad; since their Junction they have laid siege  
to Ellispore belonging to Ismael Caun, tho' an Officer of the  
Nizam, yet strictly united with Moodajee Bouncello. The  
latter, leaving 5,000 Horse to the Assistance of Ismael  
Caun, set out with 20,000 Choice Men, plundered all the  
Country as far as Brampore, and returned again to  
Ellispore. It is now reported in Town they have had a  
smart Engagement, and Sabajee and the Nizams Duan  
Obliged to retire with the loss of many Men, some Cannon,  
Elephants and Horses; but this wants Confirmation; should  
it prove true, it will, I imagine, awaken the Durbar out of *Maratha*  
the Supine State they seem to be in, for by all Accounts *unprepa-*  
they are totally unprepared for any sudden attack; and *red*  
tho' they have long talked of Assembling Troops, and I  
have been told Orders have been Issued for that Purpose, I  
yet neither see nor hear of any.

The Officers in Hindostan, tho' long since sent for, *The*  
move on but very slowly. Madjee Scindy is still near *Maratha*  
Jainagur [*Jaiṭpur*]; Tookajee Holker at Indoor [*Indore*] *generals*  
near Ugen [*Ujjain*] where His Jaghier lays; and Vissajee

Punt near Seronge [*Sironj*] Collecting Money to Pay the Arrears due to His Army, being Ordered to Discharge the whole before He comes Here ; with the latter one Triumbuckdass is coming as Vackeel from Sujah Dowlah.

*The* Mahomed Ally Cauns Vackeel, Dadah Row, visiting  
*Nawab's* me on His return, from His Family, whither He went four  
*vakil* Months ago, a few Days since, I returned the Compliments, and on taking leave, He tendered me in the name of the Nabob a Diamond Ring Valued here from twelve to fifteen Hundered Rupees, which Exceeding the sum allowed by the Hon'ble Company to be received without your Approbation, request your Permission to Accept thereof. Under Charge of two Sepoys proceeds Matthew Dobins, a Sailor  
*Deserter* Deserted from the Terrible Bomb at Surat. Enclosed are the monthly accounts for May, June & July, the Balance being Rupees 3,025, 1, 25 Request you will please to order to be paid to Brice Fletcher Esqr.  
*Accounts*

I remain with Respect,  
 HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
 Your most Obedt. Humble Servt.

*Maratha* **Friday 13th.** This morning the Chitnees by the Dur-  
*com-* bars Order sent to me to Complain of Our Gentlemen at  
*plaints* Broach having wrote the Amaldar of Orpar<sup>1</sup> to repair to Broach with a Present, otherwise they would send a Force. He Added these Continual Disputes were very Disagreeable, and Naron Row now again repeated His request that I would write and have a final stop put to them. But as I am almost certain Our Gentlemen would not make a Demand without some reason, I sent to the Chitnees and requested He would let me know the Plea given for this Demand, or give me the Complaint in writing, otherwise

1. Olpad, village north of Surat.

it would be troubling my Superiors to no purpose. He sent me word He would send me Copy of the Amaldars Letter to Naron Row in a Day or two.

**Sunday 15th.** Reports in Town Confirm the Defeat *The Bhon-* of Ruchnah Dowlah by Moodajee Bouncello, who, its said, *sle quarrel* has since surrounded the Mogul Army, and prevents all kinds of Provisions going to Camp.

Last night Naron Row sent Orders to Conde Row *The King* Derriker to Halt till further Orders; and, I am told, *of Tanjore* Dispatched Letters to Mahomed Ally Caun and the Gentlemen of Madrass, hoping that, in Consideration of the Friendship which Subsisted between this Government and them, they would not Carry things to Extremities with the King of Tanjore, as He belonged to Him.

**Wednesday 18th.** This morning the Chitnees brought *Maratha* me the Paragraph of the Letter from the Amaldar, *com-* containing the Complaints, and requested I would immediately *plaints* write about it. The Durbar, he said, were the more surprised at this Demand as they had flattered themselves, after they had Consented to Our recovering all the Nabob did, every Dispute would have been put an end to.

**Thursday 19th.** Reports mention that Ruchnah *The* Dowlah, finding himself surrounded by Moodajees Army, *Bhonsle* is Endeavouring to make up matters, but Moodajee will *quarrel* come to no Terms with Him; and it's thought is privately urged on thereto by the Nizam, who is anxious to get rid of His Vizier who has a long while kept him in Awe, and indeed for some time past He has only been nominal Nizam.

Agreeable to the Durbars request, wrote the Hon'ble *Letter to* the Resident and Council, Enclosing them the Paragraph *Bombay* of the Letter from the Amaldar of Orpar to Naron Row.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.  
President and Governor &ca at  
BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

*Maratha com-plaints* My last address to your Honor &ca was under the 12th Instant, and this is solely at the Request of the Durbar, who have again Complained of the Gentlemen at Broach having now demanded from the Amaldar of Orpar Money, Hay and Grain; this they are surprized at, as they declare the Mogul never received ought from thence, and more particularly so, as they have already Consented to Our receiving whatever the Nabob did. A Copy of a Paragraph of the Amaldars Letter to Naron Row, containing the Complaint, has been Delivered me, and which I take the Liberty to Enclose.

*The Bhonsle quarrel* The report which I mentioned in my last, respecting the Engagement between Moodajee Bouncello and the Army under the Command of Sabajee and Ruchnah Dowlah, is confirmed, and the Latter in Consequence has been obliged to Retreat from Before Ellispore, and is now surrounded by the Troops under Moodajee and Ismael Caun.

Poonah, 19th August, 1773.

I am with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR &amp; SIRs,

Your most Obedient Humble Servant.

*Maratha com-plaints* Translate of a Paragraph of a Letter from the Amaldar of Orpar to Naron Row, Delivered me by the Chitnees the 18th August, 1773.

When the Mogul was in possession of Broach, He never Collected or Demanded from this District a Tribute or Present either in Money, Hay or Provision. But now the English have got that Place, they give us great

Trouble about the above. Therefore if a Vackeel is at Poonah from Broach, desire him to put a stop to it ; and if there is a Vackeel from Bombay, request Him also write to Broach and Surat that, as the Nabob never recovered ought from hence, they will Desist from giving us any more Trouble. And was you to write yourself to both those Places, it might have a good Effect.

**Friday 20th.** This morning Sacaram Bappoo sent a *S. Bapu's* Carcoon to enquire if I had received any Answer from *impatience* Bombay to their Complaint regarding Ahmoode [*Amod*], which they had made so long ago as the 18th June. I told the Carcoon I had not yet received any, but Expected one in a Day or two ; and when it arrived, I would send and acquaint His Master.

**Monday 23rd.** Sacaram Bappo sent to me again this Morning to know if I had yet received the President and Councils Resolutions respecting Ahmoode ; and if I had not, begged I would write about it once more. I replied I had received no Directions Regarding it, but would, Conformable to His Desire, mention it again when I had Occasion to write.

**Tuesday 24th.** Letters mention that the Mogul *The* Army is still surrounded by Moodajees Forces, and that *Bhonsle* Flower [*Flour*] and Gram is sold in Camp, the former five *quarrel* and the latter four seer for a Rupee, and that the Cattle are obliged to live upon the leaves of Trees.

**Thursday 26th.** A Pair of Cossids arrived Yesterday from the Mogul Army, who bring Intelligence that Ruchnah Dowlah and Moodajee have not yet settled matters, tho' the former is doing all He can towards it ; but the latter seems more inclined to accommodate Affairs with His Brother, Sabajee, to which purpose He has promised an Addition of Territory to what He enjoyed before, but on Condition that the Sicca be in His Son Ragojees name,



who was Adopted by Janojee, and that they jointly Transact the Business of the Government.

**Saturday 28th.** Reports mention that the Dispute between Moodajee and Sabajee, is likely to be accommodated.

*Raising troops* **Sunday 29th.** This morning Naron Row Dispatched Anant Row Rastiah<sup>1</sup> to his Government of Wayme<sup>2</sup> to raise His Quotah of Men.

*Angria's visit* **Monday 30th.** This morning Ragojee Angriah came into Town, and Naron Row went out to meet Him, when after Ragojee had accompanied Him to the Palace Gate, He took leave and went to a Garden He has in Poonah.

*Murder of Narayan Rao* About one Oclock this Afternoon<sup>3</sup> I was informed there was some Disturbance in the Durbar, and that a Number of Musquets had been fired. Immediately sent People to gain the Best Intelligence they could, who returned in about Half an Hour, and acquainted me that Mahomed Esoof and Summersing, two Subedars of the Foot Guards, had under pretence of being Mustered (which it seems they had been ordered to do some Days ago), marched with their Men, which in all were about 500, to the Durbar, where they rushed in at two of the Gates, and put the Chokeys to the Sword; that the greatest part were now Mounted on the walls, and kept every Person from approaching the Place by firing at them, and some People Venturing too near had been Wounded. At three o'clock, report was brought me that most of the ministers with some Morattah Officers were Assembled at the Chokey in the Great Street leading to the Durbar, but undetermined what to do, as not knowing (at least some of them) what was transacting within, tho' most supposed it must be

1. Gopikabai's Brother, see Appendix No. 31.

2. Appendix No. 31.

3. Appendix No. 32, I.

Ragobahs Party endeavouring to seize His Nephew ; some proposed bringing Cannon and Elephants against the Durbar, while others, particularly Sacaram Bappoo, opposed it by asking against whom they meant to Act ; for those within were both equally their Masters. About four Oclock different Reports were brought : some saying Naron Row was killed, and others that he was made Prisoner ; but soon after everything seemed Hushed in the Palace, and Ragobah was Proclaimed by a Party of Horse. At Six some of the Ministers and Officers were sent for to the Palace ; a few went ; and two or three, I hear, have Secreted themselves. As I cannot for certain learn whether Naron Row is really Killed or not, I must defer advising my Superiors of this Sudden change untill to morrow.

**Tuesday 31st.** Having used my best Endeavours<sup>1</sup> to procure the most certain Intelligence of what passed Yesterday, find Naron Row was Killed, and His Body carried out privately at midnight and Burnt ; but to cut Him off, from what I can learn, was not the intentions of those that Planed the Scheme for Ragobahs release, and was kept a profound secret between Ragobah and Sumer-sing, the Man that did the deed ; the others meant only to make Him Prisoner, to which every one of the Ministers, except Nanna Furneese and Hurry Punt, were privy ; but the Plan was principally carried on by the Duan, Assisted by some of Ragobahs menial Servants. The whole of the Foot Guards, who are kept in Constant Pay and Consist of Eight Companies (some amounting to five and others to two Hundred Men), were bought over and Pitched upon for the finishing Blow ; many Morattah Officers were also in the Secret. The scheme was laid six Months ago, and every opportunity for some months watched to put it in

Execution, but a Favourable one never offered till yesterday, and even then it was hastened on by Ragobah and Sacaram Bappoos having heard Naron Row had come to a Resolution of Confining them both in Irons. It is said Naron Row had Intimation given Him of it, but this I can scarce believe, as He would certainly have taken some Precautions to prevent it, which was easily done by having a few Trusty Men with Him; but instead of which, He went as usual to take His afternoons nap; and almost every servant and every one else, except the Chokeys at the Gates, were gone out of the Palace. There has at different times been Reports of Schemes formed for Ragobahs release, and some Bramins have been Confined on that Account. But this was carried on with such secrecy that nothing Transpired untill put into Execution. What alterations this Event may make with Respect to Us or the Ministry is yet impossible to say; in the latter great changes are expected, as I hear Chokeys are already placed on the Houses of Nanna Furneese and Hurry Punt, and, it's said, they are both Absconded. As Naron Rows Death cannot Effect [*affect*] the Presidencies of Bengal and Madrass, Judge it best to defer advising them thereof, till I can give some Guess what turn Affairs will take; but as it is necessary my Superiors at Bombay should be immediately advised of the Revolution, I accordingly Addressed them the following Letters per Sepoys *Bombay Express*.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

*Murder of* HONBLE SIR AND SIRs,

*Narayan*

*Rao*

My last Address waited on you the 19th. And this is purposely to advise you of an unexpected Revolution that

happened at the Durbar yesterday Afternoon.<sup>1</sup> About one o'clock, two Subedars (Mahomed Esoof and Sumersing) of the Foot Guards, Marched with their People, about 500, to the Durbar under pretence of going to Muster, rushed in Bodily at two of the Gates and put the Chokeys to the Sword; the greatest part then mounted the Walls and kept every Body from approaching the Palace, while a few went to Naron Rows apartment. He was at this time asleep, but being waked by a Servant and hearing a Disturbance, was making the best of His way to Ragobah, who was at the same time running down Stairs. He immediately ran into Ragobahs Arms, and begged Him to save His life and take the Government; for He had then received a cut in His Back; five or six Sepoys followed Him close, and told Ragobah if He did not let Him go, they would cut them both Down, when Ragobah pushed Him from Him, and He was instantly killed with a servant who fell on Him to save Him. Mahomed Esoof then led Ragobah to the Durbar where He Issued Orders for His being Proclaimed about Town; and the whole was over in a little Time without noise or much Blood shed.

There has at different times been reports of Schemes being formed for Ragobahs release, but they either never had being, or were discovered before they were put into Execution; but this, from all I can learn, and indeed from the manner it was Effectuated, must have been carried on with the utmost Secrecy, as nothing transpired till the firing from the Durbar made it known; and what is more Extraordinary and quite unusual, not a Minister nor hardly a servant was in the Palace at the time. What Alterations this Event may make in the Ministry or with Respect to Us is yet uncertain; but as soon as I can

1. Appendix No. 32, III.

form any Judgement thereon, will Advise you, and at the same time acquaint the Gentlemen at Madrass and Bengall. At present there is the appearance of a considerable Change, as Chokeys are placed on some of the Ministers Houses, particularly on Nanna Furneeses and Hurry Punts, both of whom are reported fled. As it will now become Absolutely necessary to make Ragobah a handsome Present, having never yet been permitted to visit Him, I request your Orders thereon; but should they not arrive before it's necessary for me to go to the Durbar, I shall venture to make one, taking care to be as frugal as the Occasion will Admit.

Poonah, 31st August, 1773.

I am respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your most Obedt, Humble St.

*Accounts*      The Factory Disbursements for this Month being Closed, they are conformable to the following Extracts.

Extract of the Account Disbursements for the Residency of Poonah for August 1773.

To Factory Charges	...	...	691-1-50
„ Provision money	...	...	170-2-,,
„ Stable Charges	...	...	44-2-,,
„ Charges Extraordinary	...	...	103-2-,,

Rupees ... 1,009-3-50

Errors Excepted

**September.**

*Raghuba  
in charge*      **Wednesday 1st.** This Evening I am told Ragobah has all day been Employed in Dispatching Letters to the different Powers around, as also to the Officers Commanding Forts and Districts belonging to this Government, advising them of Naron Rows Death, and Encouraging the Latter to act

faithfully in their different Capacities. The Ministers have likewise been Directed to carry on the Business of their sundry Officers as usual.

**Thursday 2nd.** Orders have been Issued to the Several Officers to repair to Poona with the Utmost haste, and the Chokey placed on Nanna Furneeses House is taken off, who has since paid His Compliments, and is Ordered to carry on the Office of Furneese as before.

**Friday 3rd.** This morning Hurry Punt thro' the Intercession of His Friends was permitted to an Audience, and on Condition of His paying two Lacks of Rupees admitted to attend His Post under Nanna Furneese, but never to make His appearance at the Durbar but when sent for.

**Saturday 4th.** This morning Baboojee Naique arrived, whose son was some Months ago married to Ragobahs Daughter ; it seems an Express Camel was sent for Him the very night the Revolution happened.

**Sunday 5th.** Thinking from Ragobahs seeming unsettled Situation, if I could procure an Audience,<sup>1</sup> He might make some offers for Our Assistance,<sup>2</sup> I have ever since the Revolution made use of my best Endeavours to Obtain One ; and this Afternoon (tho' the time for mourning is not yet over) I was sent for to the Durbar, where after first Compliments I expressed my Hopes the same Friendship would continue Inviolat as had subsisted between this Government and the Hon'ble Company ever since Badje Rows time ; and at the same time gave Him all the opening in my Power (Except speaking in direct

*Visit to  
Raghoba*

1. Mostyn called on Raghoba on the sixth day after the murder, a detail which has not been mentioned by Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 701.

2. The cession of Bassein, Salsette and Karanja was to be the price of English assistance.

Terms) to mention any offers He had to make, by assuring Him of Our wishes to Convince Him by the most Substantial marks of Our Friendship, that the Prosperity of this State was what We had most at Heart. However contrary to my Expectations<sup>1</sup> He only replied to my Professions of kindness in general Terms, and I soon after took my leave.

*Raghoba's position* From what I could observe, Ragobah appears a Prisoner both to the Guards and Ministers, for He is surrounded by People belonging to Each. It is at present impossible to say what Turn Affairs will take, as the *Unstable government* Prince seems Jealous of all the Old Ministers, and they not only of Him, but of each other; and tho' they have received Orders to carry on the Business of their different Offices, they as yet are fearfull of acting. Ragobah, from what I can learn, at present places His Chief safety in the Guards, who still have Charge of the Palace and are the Principal People about His Person. Should He continue to Distrust all the Old Ministers, it is the Current Opinion this Government will not long remain in the Bramins Hands, as they are the only Persons that can support Him; and in that case they will be Drove to the necessity of forming Parties for their own safety; and it's most probable the Powers around will avail themselves of so good an Opportunity of Wrestling from them all they can, particularly Moodajee Bouncello who has a large Army on Foot and is a good Soldier and Politician, and as He is a Descendant of the Rajahs Family, may form Pretentions to the Government itself.

1. This disposes of Dr. Basu's allegation: "Now Raghoba, whom he [Mostyn] had helped to gain the Peshwaship was a tool in his [Mostyn's] hands. He [Mostyn] made him [Raghoba] wage war against the Nizam and Hyder Ali." (Basu, *Rise of the Christian Power in India*, II, 42)

**Monday 6th.** Chokeys are this Day placed on all the Roads at small Distances from Poonah to prevent people passing with Baggage and to stop all Letters and Bramins. This is done with an Intention to hinder the Inhabitants moving off with their Families and Effects; notwithstanding which, I am Assured many are daily going away; indeed the whole Town seems to be in Panick for fear of being Plundered, not so much from the Government as from Theeves who on these Occasions do more mischief than the Soldiers; every one of the Ministers keep a Body of Armed Men in their Houses, and I was Advised by Morabah Furneese to keep a Strict Watch. The few people I have, already are very much Fatigued, as the Place I am in is a Garden, walled in, but so Extensive as to require one half at a time to be sentinels. I have therefore been obliged to promise them a Gratuity when Affairs are settled, otherwise being mostly Poonah People they would all leave me; and should an Accident happen to Ragobah (which is not improbable in the Present Confusion), or the Place be attacked by any Foreign Power, as all Government will then be at an end, and every one act for Himself, I shall be obliged in either case to quit Poonah and retire to some Village, to wait my Superiors Commands and the Issue of Affairs here; which should I be under the necessity of doing, I am clear that the Peons, I have raised here, will to a Man leave me to take care of themselves and Families, and I shall be at the mercy of every Band of Villains I meet; I therefore Judge it necessary to request a few Bombay Sepoys, who may, when things are quiet, be either returned, or an equal Number of Peons Discharged.

**Tuesday 7th.** This morning Addressed my Superiors the following Letter.



To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President &amp; Governor &amp;ca Members of the

Select Committee at

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR &amp; SIRs,

*Reference to letter Visit to Durbar* My last Address to the Board of the 31st Ulto informed You of the Extraordinary and unexpected Revolution that has taken Place here. I have since been sent for to the Durbar, but nothing passed, except Compliments and my hoping the same Friendship would remain inviolable as had Subsisted between the two States ever since *Conditions in Poona* Badje Rows time. From what I could observe, Ragobah seems to be as much as Prisoner as ever; for He was surrounded both by the Guards and People belonging to the different Ministers, and it's yet impossible to say what turn Affairs will take. The Chokeys placed on some of the Ministers are taken off, and they all have been directed to go on as usual in their different Departments; but are nevertheless fearful of Acting; for Ragobah appears jealous of the whole, and they of each other; and at present He seems to Place His sole safety in the Guards that cut off Naron Row, who still Guard his Person and the Palace.<sup>1</sup>

*Unstable government* From the best information I can possibly Procure in the Confusion things are, it's the Current opinion this Government cannot long stand, but must be torn to Pieces by Intestine Divisions. Should Ragobah continue to Distrust all the old Ministers who are only able to support Him, they will be drove to the necessity, for their own safety, of forming parties here; and most certainly the Powers around will not fail to avail themselves of so favourable an Opportunity of seizing what they can, particularly Moodajee Bouncello who has a large Army on Foot and is

1. See Grant Duff, *History of the Marathas*, I, 701.

also a good Soldier and Politician, and may from His being a Descendant of the Rajahs Family form pretentions to the Government Himself and probably attempt at securing it. In short this great Empire now rests upon Ragobahs single Life ; should He by any Accident be taken off, the whole must go to Distruction, and as many petty Governments be Formed as there are Forts, until some Superior Power by degrees reduces them. However things draw fast to a Crisis, and at the end of the Mourning I shall be better able to Judge how far He is likely to succeed.

I have dispatched this by pattamars, as I cannot with *Mostyn's* safety part with any of the Bombay Sepoys, and the Peons *fears* cannot be trusted, as there are Chokeys on all the Roads to prevent Letters passing. Should an Accident happen to Ragobah, or He be attacked by any Foreign Power, I must then be under the necessity of quitting the Place. In which case the Peons, I have hired here, will of course leave me to take care of their own Families ; and I shall be left without Assistance, Should an attempt be made to Plunder me on the Road ; and this is not unlikely as the whole Country will certainly be up in Arms ; therefore request Your Honor &ca will favour me with a Detachment of twelve Sepoys ; but it is requisite they be sent at Different times, singly, and Separate Roads, to prevent Suspicion ; and when things are settled, they may either be returned, or as many of the Peons Discharged.

As my Advices to the other presidencies may fail, I submit it to Your Honor &ca whether it may not be proper for You to Advise them by Sea of this Revolution.

Poonah, the 7th Sept., 1773.

I remain very Respectfully,  
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,  
Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

*Mostyn* Ragobahs precarious Situation giving me hopes He  
*disap-* may still make some Offers for Our Assistance, I have  
*pointed* been privately using my Endeavours to have another Audi-  
ence, and was this Evening accordingly again sent for to  
the Durbar, and received in the Chamber of Audience ;  
where after sitting a little while, Ragobah got up and re-  
tired into a Private Apartment, when He sent for most of  
the Old Ministers, and called me in, and Desired to know  
what I had to say. I replied that I had nothing particularly  
more than what I told Him upon my first Visit ; which I  
again repeated, and added that I did not doubt but He was  
well acquainted with the motive that Induced the Hon'ble  
Company to send a Constant Resident at this Durbar ; to  
which both His Predecessors had with Pleasure given their  
Consent, and accordingly wrote so both to the Hon'ble  
Company and Governor and Council of Bombay ; and I  
could not but suppose He had the like good Inclinations  
towards the English, and therefore hoped He had no ob-  
jections to my remaining here on the same footing as be-  
fore. To this He gave an Answer in general terms, and  
told me He had appointed Nanna Furneese and Ramajee  
Chitnees to transact any business that might Occur between  
me and the Durbar ; and on things of importance He  
would talk with me Himself ; on which I took my leave  
much Disappointed at His not making any Offer or even  
Hinting He wished for our Assistance ; for I had flattered  
myself, on being sent, for He meant to open Himself and  
propose something in His present Situation that might be  
Advantageous for the Hon'ble Company. However as He  
did not, I could not say any more than I did ; for in my  
Opinion it would by no means forward the Views of my  
Hon'ble Employers for me to propose Assistance, when  
from Ragobahs behaviour He seems not to think He  
stands in need of it.

**Wednesday 8th.** Ragobah has Issued Orders for Recruiting His Army as fast as possible, and also taken an Account of the number of Jaghier Troops about Poonah, which I find amount to about 45,000 Men. Govind Row Giquah Malajee Rajah, the Pretenery and Baboojee Naique have also received orders to raise Men.

**Thursday 9th.** People are so Divided in their Opinions respecting affairs in general that it is Yet Impossible to say with any precision how they may end ; however as it is necessary the Presidencies of Madrass and Bengal should be informed of the Revolution and present unsettled state of things, I accordingly Addressed them the following Letters.

To

*Letter to  
Presiden-  
cies  
Madras*

THE HON'BLE ALEXANDER WYNCH, ESQR.

President and Governor and Members of the  
Select Committee at Fort St. George.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

I last did myself the Pleasure to Address Your Honor on the 4th Ultimo, Duplicate of which is Enclosed.

*Reference  
to letter*

This is principally to acquaint You of an Extraordinary Revolution that took place here the thirtieth ultimo ; that Day two Subedars, Mahomed Esoof and Sumersing, having been bought over to Ragobahs Interest (who has been close confined for some time past by His Nephew) Marched to the Palace with about Five Hundred Men, on pretence of being Mustered, and after having cut off the Guard at the Gates, Rushed in and Killed Naron Row. About an Hour after, Ragobah was proclaimed in Town, and the whole was over in a very little time without noise or much bloodshed. There has been frequent Reports of Schemes being Formed for Ragobahs Release ; but they have generally been Detected, before they came to Maturity ; however this was carried on with such Address that

*Poona re-  
volution*

it was put into Execution, before the necessary Precautions could be taken to prevent its Effects.

By what I can learn, most of the Ministers were concerned in this affair; notwithstanding which, Ragobah seems Jealous of them all, and Places his whole Confidence in His Army, which He is recruiting with the utmost haste; but whether it will be stanch to Him is Yet uncertain and cannot be Determined till Dessorah, when He means to go to Setterah to receive the Sirpaw and afterwards take the Field.

*Unstable  
govern-  
ment*

I should have informed Your Honor of the above immediately on its happening, had I not wished to have acquainted You with what turn things would take; and though I have waited till now, it is impossible to say with any certainty (People are so divided in their Opinions) what may attend this Change. But it is generally believed this great Empire, which now rests upon Ragobahs single life, cannot long stand; should he continue to Distrust the Old Ministers who are only able to support Him, they will be drove to the Disagreeable necessity of Forming Parties for their own safety; and it is most probable the Bordering Powers will not fail to avail themselves of so favourable an Opportunity of seizing what they can, Moodajee Bouncello in Particular, who has a large Army on Foot, is also a good soldier and Politician, and may from being a Descendant of the Rajahs Family form Pretentions to the Government and not unlikely take this Opportunity of Attempting at securing it. In short in this Confusion of Affairs nothing can be Depended on. But after Ragobah has been to Setterah, I shall be better able to Judge; when, should any material Alteration happen, I shall Instantly acquaint You therewith. Notwithstanding the Repeated Orders sent from hence to the Principal Officers of the Morattah Army in Hindostan for their return hither, none of them have

*Maratha  
generals*

Yet arrived. Indeed Vissajee Punt Benewalla is the only one that has obeyed. He is now at Brampore [*Burhanpur*] in His Way to this Place, but His People are Disbanded ; the other two by the last Advices were at Ugen [*Ujjain*] and Jainagur [*Jaipur*] the different places from whence they draw their Jaghier.

Moodajee and Sabajee Bouncello have not Yet Settled *The* their Dispute ; by the latest Accounts the latter with the *Bhonsles* Nizams Duan, Ruchnah Dowlah, (who some time ago marched to His Assistance) were Surrounded by Moodajees Army ; the Consequences that may attend this is not Yet known, but it's supposed a few Days will Explain it. Poona, 9th September, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,  
Your most Obed. Servt.

To

THE HON'BLE WARREN HASTINGS, ESQR.

*Letter to  
Calcutta*

President and Governor and Members of the  
Select Committee at Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your Boards favour of the 22nd April reached *Reference* me the 28th June following, and agreeable thereto I Address *to letter* this to your Honor &ca ; which I should have observed in my last, had there been ought contained therein improper to have been publickly known, as I was not Ignorant of there being a Select Committee at Your Presidency.

This is principally to acquaint You of an Extraordi- *The* nary Revolution that took place here the 30th Ultro ; that *Poona* Day two Subedars, Mahomed Esoof and Sumersing, having *revolu-* been bought over to Ragobahs Interest (who has been *tion* closely confined for some time past by His Nephew) Marched to the Palace with about 500 Men on Pretence of being Mustered, and after having cut off the Guard at

the Gates, rushed in and Killed Naron Row; about an Hour after, Ragobah was Proclaimed in Town, and the whole was over in a very little time without Noise or much Bloodshed.

There has been frequent reports of schemes being formed for Ragobahs release, but they have generally been Detected before they came to maturity. However this was carried on with such Address that it was put into Execution, before the necessary Precautions could be taken to prevent its Effects.

By what I can learn, most of the Ministers were concerned in this affair; notwithstanding which, Ragobah now seems Jealous of them all, and places His sole Confidence in His Army, which He is Recruiting with the utmost Haste; but whether it will be Stanch to Him is Yet uncertain and cannot be Determined till Dessorah, when He means to go to Setterah to receive the Sirpaw of Peshwah from the Rajah and afterwards take the Field.

*Unstable  
govern-  
ment*

I should have informed Your Honor &ca of the above immediately on its happening, had I not wished to have acquainted You with what turn things would take; and though I have waited till now, it is impossible to say with certainty (people are so Divided in their opinions) what may attend this Change. But it is generally believed this Great Empire, which now rests upon Ragobahs single Life, cannot long stand; should He continue to Distrust the old Ministers who are only able to support Him, they will be drove to the Disagreeable necessity of Forming Parties for their own safety; and it is most probable the Bordering Powers will not fail to avail themselves of so favourable an opportunity of seizing what they can, Modajee Bouncello in particular, who has a large Army on foot, is also a good Soldier and Politician, and may from being a Relation of the Rajah form Pretentions to the Government and not

unlikely take this opportunity of attempting at securing it. In short, in this Confusion of Affairs nothing can be Depended on; but after Ragobah has been to Setterah, I shall be Better able to Judge; when, should any material alteration happen, I will instantly acquaint You therewith.

I suppose your Honor &ca must have received information from Your Forces up Country that the Morattah *Maratha generals* Army in Hindostan has retired. The three Principal Officers have long since been ordered hither but, Vissajee Punt is the only one that has Obeyed, he is now at Bram-pore [*Burhanpur*] in His way to this place; the other two by the last Advises were at Ugen [*Ujjain*]; and Jainagar [*Jaipur*], the Different Places from whence they draw the Jaghier.

I also Presume from Your Honor &cas Vicinity to *The Berar* You are informed of the Dispute that has subsisted *Bhonsles* for some time past between Moodajee and Sabajee Boun-cello; the latter is supported by the Nizams Duan, Ruchnah Dowlah, and who by the last Accounts were surrounded by Moodajeas Army.

The above is written in the CIPHER framed by the Hon'ble Company in the year 1755, No. 2 or B, which I make no Doubt but you are in possession of.  
Poonah, 9th September, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

Your most Obedient Humble Servt.

This afternoon received by Superiors Commands of *Letter from Bombay* the 3rd instant, giving cover to the Chief and Factors of Broach, their reply to the Durbars Complaints regarding Ahmoode [*Amod*] as entered hereafter, which I shall take the first Opportunity of Explaining to them, and make no Doubt but I shall be able to Satisfy them in the fullest manner on that Head.



To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at

POONAH.

SIR,

*Reference to letter* The Letters You have Addressed Us, down to that dated the 19th Ultimo, have been received, and the complaints You acquainted Us in Your Correspondence that have been made to the Durbar of the Proceedings of the Chief and Factors at Broach have been duly noticed thither; and in Order that You may have it fully in Your Power to Confute these Complaints and to Convince the Durbar of the injustice of the Representations that the Amaldar of Ahmoode [*Amod*] and others have made to them, We enclose an Attested Copy of the Chief and Factors, their Letter to us in reply, dated the 22nd Ultimo, with Copies of all the Papers therein refered to, which We make no Doubt, when properly Explained by You, will give the Durbar perfect Satisfaction upon these Points which they then thought they had Cause to Complain of. In future you must send Us Translates of such papers as You may send hither, instead of Copies from the Originals.

Bombay Castle, 3rd September, 1773.

We are Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

JOHN WATSON

DANIEL DRAPER

BRICE FLETCHER

BENJAMIN JERVIS

WILLIAM TAYLOR

NATH STACKHOUSE

ROBERT GARDEN.

*P. S.* We permit you to accept the Diamond Ring You acquaint Us was offered You as a Present by the Vackeel of Mahommedally.

*Broach explanation* Extract of a Letter from the Chief and Council at Broach, dated the 22nd August, 1773.

Enclosed, from Number one to twelve, are Copies of Our Orders and such of the Subsequent Correspondence between the Board and the Camp at Ahmoode [*Amod*] as will serve to set that Transaction in a clear light and shew Your Honor &ca what extreme Attention and Caution We used to avoid giving any Just Cause of Complaint to the Poonah Government; at the same time that We determined to carry the Spirit and Letter of Your Orders effectually into Execution, well knowing that all Our future Prospects must Depend on the manner in which matters were Conducted this first Year which would be Deemed a precedent for time to come. We before Advised Your Honor &ca that the Chief had, agreeable to Your Orders, immediately on His Arrival wrote the Amaldar of Ahmoode [*Amod*] and all Others, from whom it had been usual for the late Nabob to collect an Annual Tribute, that He expected they should forthwith discharge them; and on receiving Letters of Excuse, either for part or the whole, from almost every one, except the Jumbooseer [*Jambusar*] Pundit, He again wrote Advising them to do it in a friendly manner, as otherwise He had it in His Orders from His Superiors to acquaint them a Force would be sent to Collect it at their Expense. Even this had little Effect with any, except the Jumbooser [*Jambusar*] Pundit, untill by Our Ordering a Detachment to Ahmoode [*Amod*] they were one and all Convinced our Words and Actions Corresponded; the frequently repeated Letters and Messengers, sent to the Ahmoode [*Amod*] Pundit on this Occasion by the Chief, shews how desirous we were to avoid sending a Force as well as the length of Time we Suffered ourselves to be amused by His Fallacious Promises and Procrastination, untill we were well informed He had an Intention to Escape to Poonah with all the Tribute Money, which he He had Collected on that Account of the Pattells

*Judicious  
firmness*

*Strong  
measures  
necessary*

and Zimindars,<sup>1</sup> and Bills of Exchange from Madowsette, His Colleague in the Government, for his share of the same. We therefore Advised Your Honour &ca that the Pundit and Zimindars were brought hither to Settle the Tribute and Charges ; which being Completed, the Chief Dispatched them with proper Credit out of regard to the Poonah Sircar, having given them the usual Presents.

*The Pundit's fort* As to what the Pundit Advances of an Injury being done to the Pattells and Zimindars, it is entirely groundless ; for You may please to Observe by Mr. Cheapes Correspondence with Us, now forwarded, that the Principal of them were found in Chamsin, the Pundits small Fort (or rather House) ; for this Fort or House is not within Ahmoode [Amod] but Adjoining to the Walls which form the Back-part of it, and otherwise quite Distinct, with a Door into the open Country and none into the Town. Mr. Cheape, having wrote Us our People had taken this little Fort into their charge, led Us astray, as appears by our Letter to Him the 23rd May, we Judging the Fort must be within the Town as Customary ; but we were happy to find Our mistake on receiving His Answer to the said Letter and to learn it was only a Detached House the Pundit Inhabited, and in which He, a few of His followers and about 100 Armed Sepoys, together with the abovementioned Prisoners, were ; and not the least Offence, You will observe, was given to any of the Subjects ; On the reverse they were well satisfied to see this Petty Tyrant Chastized ; for such He was to the Inhabitants in general, and as such Detested, in so much that He lately fled thence thro' fear of their maltreating Him. Mr. Cheape Demanded at first

*Demands made* Rups. 3,000, it is true, for the Expences of the Troops and

1. "The desmookh, dessae or Zumeendar" was one of the two hereditary officers placed over several villages forming a small district. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 31)

Rupees 1,000 p. Day besides; but this was only to alarm and hasten Him in paying the real Charges, which together with our share of the Roddary<sup>1</sup> amounted to Rupees 4,526, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; for which sum the Zimindars, Pattells &ca gave a Bond, and Ahmood Sing of Ahmoode Graciah, His Security; on which it was accepted by People of Credit for payment in a Certain Period; and part of the sum is already in Cash, and the whole, We flatter ourselves, will be cleared very shortly.

There was not a single Gun fired on the Occasion, notwithstanding what the Pundit declares; and we have every Reason to believe that what he Alledges in regard to His being Plundered is equally False; the Place was but small, and an Officer always Present; when He came hither, He brought most of His Effects with Him; and what He left behind, a particular List was taken of in the Presence of His own People, whose receipt Mr. Cheape took, and its copy goes Enclosed; on the first Entering His House, one or two of the soldiers got a little Money, which was immediately found out and returned to Him. It is not impossible however that some of His own People, taking Advantage of the times, might have robbed Him of some Articles, as one of them was actually Detected in the fact of carrying away two Swords belonging to Him; but indeed it appeared all he had was of very little Value; no other person suffered the least Injury, nor were any complaints made Here. The Pundit, some time after His arrival, it's true, did give a List of some Trifles, He said, were lost. The Chief thereupon desired the Colonel to summon all the Officers, and a strict enquiry was made before Him and the Pundits head Men. (He not attending Himself, though sent for, pleading sickness); but they

*No firing  
nor  
looting*

1. Radaree: transit duty from *rah-dar* road-keeper. (Hobson-Jobson)

could not prove or point out the Probability even how a single Article could be lost.

*The* In respect to the Tributes of Ocleseer, Thansoot and  
*tribute* Desborah,<sup>1</sup> which you direct Us to give You a particular Account of, the Nabob had long Collected what He could from them, and of late the very Sum we Demanded ; but on account of the Badness of the Crop last Season we have taken from Ocleseer and Hansoot only 6,000 Rupees, altho' the Nabob took 6,500 Rupees the preceding year ; and from Desborah, 2,800 being the same the Nabob Collected ; but of the last, the Zimindars have delivered the Nabobs receipt for 1,000 Rupees, taken in the Beginning of the Season, which We have Credited them. The Balance they have paid in full ; and Ocleseer and Hansoot, about Half. The Nabobs Demand on these Places was not, We beg leave to Observe, founded in violence ; but these Provinces as well as Ahmoode [*Amod*] and Jumbooseer (*Jambusar*) actually appertained in former times to Broach, and stand so (that is as Appendages annexed thereto) on the Moguls Books to this Day. The Peshwah and Guiquah therefore have been the unjust Usurpers of those countries, and by violence striped this Government of them. It was not however without much trouble and many Letters from the Chief that those Tributes were Collected, and even [*not without*] the appearance of an actual preparation to send an Armed Force against them, one evening when several of the Considerable Zimindars and Inhabitants were here, that they were induced to give Us instantly Security for the Sums ; but the Claims are so far founded in Reason as above, agreeable to the information We can procure.

1. Ankleswar, Hansot, Dehegebareh. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series I*, 237)

Respecting the Boat and right to the Wrecks, claimed by the People of the Villages of Hansoot, Ocleseer and Desborah, mentioned in Your Commands of 13th Ultó, We beg leave to observe that it appears by the Records of this Board, under February last, the Royalty of the River was agreed upon between Futtysing and Mr. Price to be Vested in the English; therefore if any but the owners claim is good, it is the Hon'ble Companys. But as application was *Limjee's* made some time ago by the agent of Nannabhoy Limjee, a *boat* Merchant of Bombay, to the Chief, informing Him that a Boat of His Master, bound to Bombay, had been Drove into this Rivers Mouth by Stress of Weather and their [*there*] Grounded, the People of Desborah came down upon Her; and instead of aiding the Vessel, they plundered Her of everything, and Drew Her on shore, though she Grounded within our Bounds; on hearing this, the Chief instantly wrote a proper Letter to the Pundit, who released Her and some of the Goods. We therefore beg leave to submit and recommend to Your Honor &cas Consideration that everything be Delivered to the Owner, which will be an Encouragement to Traders to resort hither; and the like we beg *A cotton* leave to say of the Cotton picked up in various ports of *boat* this River from a Boat that was lost at Sea, which bore the mark of Dunjeeshaw at Surat, and is, we are Assured, part of the Cotton He had provided to the northward to complete His late Contract with our Hon'ble Employers. Part of this Cotton was claimed by the Choutiah<sup>1</sup> here, but refused to be delivered up, first because the Royalty belongs to the English, and Secondly in hopes your Honor &ca would indulge the Owners with it, who had suffered greatly by losing these Boats and part of the Cargoes; on which head we beg an immediate Answer. We beg leave

1. A revenue collector.

*Unreliable statements* again to Observe the little Dependence there is to be placed on the Ahmoode Pundits representation of the things Plundered from Him ; for in the Articles of ready Money in the list He delivered here there were only 1,600 Rupees mentioned, whereas in that afterwards received from Bombay He makes it out 3,019-2-,,.

A true extract  
GEORGE SKIPP,  
Secry.

*Raghoba's proposals* **Friday 10th.** This morning I was visited by the Chitnees who acquainted me Ragobah had sent Him to inform me that he had made inquiry into what had been done regarding Broach, and that he was willing to give Six Lack, the sum before offered by the Durbar for that Place ; and that His Master had also Directed Him to acquaint me, as He was going soon to Setterah to receive the Sirpaw, and afterwards meant to take the Field, He intended Dispatching me, as there could be no Business done in His Absence ; and on His return would send for me again. In *Mostyn's reply* I acquainted the Chitnees I was much surprised at the whole of his message ; to the former part of it I thought I had given a very sufficient and plain Answer, when He and Hurry Punt had talked to me on that Subject, by telling them my Superiors were Resolved not to part with the Place in question for any Pecuniary Consideration whatever, and could not now help Admiring their again Offering what had been refused in so peremptory a manner. As to the Latter, I told Him I was very much amazed to find Ragobah had any thought of Dispatching me after what had passed at the two Visits I had made Him ; for Had He any Objections to my remaining here, I expected He would have made them then. However if He Judged the Friendship of the English not worth the having, He of course had it in his Power to send me away ; but the

Hon'ble Company would expect every other vackeel to be Dispatched also, otherwise it would probably appear to them both a Breach of Treaty and Friendship ; and as I could not leave this Durbar without my Superiors Orders, I had to request, if His Master continued fixed in His present Resolutions of sending me away, He would write and acquaint the Gentlemen of Bombay of it.

Before the Chitnees took leave, I informed Him I had received a full reply to the Durbars Complaints about Ahmoode [*Amod*] &ca, and would, whenever He and Nanna Furneese were at leisure, explain the Affair to them ; and at the same time told Him I had received a Letter from the Hon'ble President, as entered hereafter, Directing me to Demand Restitution of a Vessel & Cargoe their Fleet had taken off Dannoo and carried into Gariah, notwithstanding she had our Pass and Colours, and had been Freightied by Merchants under the English Protection for fifteen Years past ; on going away He promised to acquaint Ragobah with the whole of what I had told Him, and that He would see me again as soon as possible to let me know the Result.

To  
THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.  
Sir,

*Letter  
from  
Bombay*

A Merchant of Surat, named Govardan Jewan, sent a Vessel for Arden [*Aden*] in March last with our Pass and Colours ; off Dannoo she was taken by the Morattahs and Carried into Gariah, where they have Detained Her. I wrote to the subedar of that Place for Her release, but He does not chuse to Deliver up the Vessel without He gets Orders from Poonah. You will therefore apply to the Durbar for her being given up. Her name is the Mahmoody Savoy, and has gone to Gulph of Mocha and other



Ports for about fifteen Years, freighted by Merchants under the English Protection.

4	years	Freighted by	Cowasjee Moody
5	Do.	do.	Monacjee Moody
3	Do.	do.	Mr. Parrott
3	Do.	do.	Govardan Jewan

Govardan Jewans man, who now goes to you, will inform you all.

Bombay, 30th August, 1773

I am Sir,

Your most Humble Servant,

WILLIAM HORNBY.

*Mostyn to  
stay in  
Poona*

**Monday 13th.** This morning Ramajee Chitnees came to acquaint me He had informed Ragobah of all that passed between me and Him the 10th; and that His Master now sent Him to tell me It was not His Intention to Dispatch me, but only to give me leave during His absence; and as that was not agreeable, He consented to my Continuing here as before; and that I might go and come at Pleasure; but He evaded saying a syllable about Broach. I told him, as Ragobah had now Declared his good Inclination towards the Hon'ble Company by agreeing to my Residing here as their Resident, I hoped the Durbar would no longer Delay ordering a Place for my fixed Abode, and requested He would speak to His Master about it, which He promised to do at the first Convenient Opportunity. In the Evening Ragobah went to Perwatty to meet His Son, Amrut Row, being the first Day after His Mourning; they came to Town together; but as it was not a lucky Hour for Amrut Row, He passed on to His Tent at Samgome, and did not enter the Palace till ten at Night.

Mahomed Ashraf,<sup>1</sup> a Vackeel from the Dutch at Surat, who arrived some Days ago, had this morning an Audience

1. Perhaps the same person whose name is given as Mahomed Arruf on November 11, 1772.

at the Durbar, and presented a Horse, a pair of Pistols, a Fowling Piece and four Case Bottles of different Spice Waters.

**Thursday 16th.** As Ragobahs Mourning is now over, *Request* He may Expect me to make my Compliments and Present *for* to Him on His Succession; therefore sent this Morning to *audience* the Chitnees to request to know whether it would be best to do it before He set out for Setterah, or defer it till His return. He sent me word it would undoubtedly be proper for me to do it now; delaying it till Ragobahs return would appear very Extraordinary, as every one had, or would make a Present and pay their respect to Him before He left Poonah; and He judged the day after Dessorah would be the most Convenient both for His Master and me, as I then might probably find Him so far disengaged from Affairs as to be able to have an opportunity to speak to Him on Business.

**Friday 17th.** A thousand Horse are Ordered into *Raghoba* the Conkon in Order to keep a watch on the Officers Com- *takes steps* manding in the Different Forts, of whose Faith Ragobah is Doubtfull. This afternoon an Express Camel arrived *Mudaji* from a village near Aurungabad, which brought Intelli- *Bhonsle* gence that Moodajee Bouncello, Hisson, Ragojee, Deriabay, Janojees Widow, and Sabajee, with whom Moodajee has made up matters, are coming this way with about 25,000 Horse, and were Advanced as far as Lachanwaddy Gott on the Borders of Berar. It seems Ragobah immediately, on being Proclaimed here, wrote Moodajee to come with about 5,000 Horse to attend him to Setterah where he intended giving Him the Sirpaw which Naron Row had given to Sabajee; but notwithstanding this, His coming with so large a Force has Alarmed the Merchants and Principal People of Poonah to such a degree that most of them are sending away their Jewells and Money and even

their Families into Distant Parts. It is said, but with what truth I know not, that Moodajee and Sabajee, before the news of Naron Rows Death reached them, had accommodated matters in the following manner, that Ragojee whom Jonajee Adopted should Govern, Sabajee [to] act as Duan, and Moodajee to Command the Army.

*Other chiefs* This Evening Conde Row Derriher, who was some time ago Dispatched with two thousand Horse to the Assistance of Sabajee Bouncello, returned, being recalled by Ragobah. Vissajee Punt Benewallah is also arrived within a few coase from Hindustan with about 5,000 Men; and I am informed He has brought with Him to the amount of Seven Lacks in Jewells, 500 Horses, some Elephants and Camels for the Sircar; but the Arrears due to His Army is not less than 30 Lacks of Rupees.

*Letter from Madras* **Friday 18th.** At noon received a letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Sir,

*Tanjore campaign* In our Letter of the 8th Ultio, a Duplicate of which comes Enclosed, We acquainted you that We were collecting a Force at Trichinopoly In order to go against the King of Tanjore. We are now to Advise you that the Army arrived before Tanjore the 6th Instant, when an Action between the Nabobs Cavalry and those of the King of Tanjore ensued, in which the latter were defeated and driven into the Fort with some loss. We expect daily to hear of our Troops having Broke Ground before the Place, We have thought it proper to give you this Intelligence. since it will be necessary that We should be particularly

Attentive to the motions of the Morattahs, as our Operations against Tanjore draw to a Crisis.

Fort St. George, 13th August, 1773.

We are with Esteem,

Sir,

Your most obedt, Humble Servts,

ALEXANDER WYNCH

J. M. STONE.

JOHN SMITH

Vamon Row, who was some time ago Dispatched to the District of Meritz [*Miraj*], which is His Jaghier, to raise His quota of Men, has got together about Ten Thousand and has put the Fort in Order and, it's imagined, will not acknowledge Ragobah; and it's thought Anant Row Rastiah, Gopichabays Brother, who has the Command of Wayne [*Wai*] and a very Extensive Country for a Jaghier, will Join Him. From appearances without and the unsettled State of the Durbar it's generally believed this Government cannot Continue long, at least in the Present Hands. *The chiefs of Miraj and Wai*

This Afternoon Ragobah went and Visited Mahomed Esoof and Summersing, the two Subedars that brought about the Revolution; which is a Step so much below the Dignity of Peshwah that is [*it*] cannot fail to Disgust the Ministers, and great Officers, and even His Friends. *Ill-advised visit*

**Sunday 19th.** Ragobah has already begun to make many Changes in the Different Posts under the Government, and it's said He intends by Degrees to remove all the old Servants. *Changes*

In the afternoon Ragobah Visited the Pretenary and some other Great Officers, who, I am told, received the Compliments but coolly, owing to his having paid the same to the two Subedars that Killed Naron Row. I am informed that Bim Row, the Commander of the Artillery, notwithstanding He had a principal hand in bringing about the late Revolution and is a favourite of Ragobahs, is so very *Other visits* *Bim Rao's fears*

apprehensive of Moodajee Bouncello or some other Treachery that He has removed His Family and all that He has below the Gotts.

*Request for protection* This evening Ballajee Naique Beriah and Sewram Jeevajee made me a Visit ; the former is a Principal Merchant here, who for years past has been in much Esteem with this Government, in so much that during some Part of Madah Rows time, and while Naron Row lived, He held some considerable Posts, which Ragobah has taken away ; and as He is fearfull He still may go greater lengths, He is Desirous of coming under the English Protection, and came to request I would write my Superiors to know if they would give it him. As the giving Merchants protection is no ways Contrary to the Treaties Subsisting between this State and Us, I promised Him I would write, and at the same time told Him I doubted not but His request would be complied with. He then told me He had about two Lacks of Rupees in Soon Gurr<sup>1</sup> Fort Near Surat, which He would be glad to lodge in the Hon'ble Companys Hands, provided the Hon'ble President and Council would permit thereof, in which case He desired the gentlemen at Surat might be Ordered to receive it.

*Fateh Singh's proposals* The latter, Sewram Jeevajee, Futtysings Vackeel, waited on me on behalf of His Master, who, He says, is apprehensive Ragobah will endeavour to dispossess Him of His Governnt and give it to His Brother, Govind Row. He therefore is Desirous of entering into an Alliance with the Hon'ble Company, but to be Valid only on Condition Ragobah should take such a step ; for otherwise He did not mean to Break with the Peshwah.

He proposes that his Master and the Hon'ble Company Jointly take the whole of the Guzarat Country, the Re-

1. Songarh in Baroda.

venues of which, including Surat, amount to about 80 Lack of Rupees Yearly, which is now nearly equally Divided between the Peshwah and Him ; and that the share now possessed by the former shall for ever Devolve to the Hon'ble Company, except the Capital, Amadabad and the Half of Patlaid Purgonnah, and Broach also must be Delivered up to Him as being in his share ; and that each must pay His own Troops. I could not help making the following *Mostyn's* Remarks to Him on these Extraordinary Proposals. First *reply* that the Conditions of the Treaty being only Obligatory on His part in Case Ragobah should Attempt to put Govind Row in the Government was binding us and leaving Himself to act as might suit His own Convenience ; which Destroyed the Foundation of all agreements ; for He could not suppose we would enter into any Treaty that was not binding on both sides. Secondly that by the Delivery of Amadabad and the half of Patlaid<sup>1</sup> Purgonnah, which now both belonged to the Peshwah, and the giving up of Broach was by His own Account between Seven and Eight Lack of Rupees a year. This His Master would not only gain, but be supported in His Government by the Connection without any Further Trouble or Expense than Maintaining a few more Troops ; Whereas the Hon'ble Company must enter into a War with the Peshwah, maintain a numerous Army and lose every advantage of Trade they now Possessed in the Morattah Dominions ; for these and many other Obvious Objections to His Proposals, I could not think they would be Accepted, even were the Hon'ble President and Council inclined to break with the Morattahs. He requested notwithstanding I would write to Bombay regarding it ; and if the Hon'ble Company were Desirous of an Alliance with His Master, He made no Doubt but all trifling

I. Petlad about 20 miles from Baroda.

Differences would soon be Adjusted to mutual satisfaction ; which I promised I would do the first Opportunity.

*Request for protection* **Monday 20th.** This afternoon I was visited by Anant Row Jeevajee, Brother to Govind Sewram, whose Family, for many Years past have held one of the most Considerable Posts under the Government, which Ragobah has taken away ; this with some other Parts of Ragobahs behaviour has greatly Disgusted Him. He is therefore Determined, if things do not alter for the better, to quit Poonah, and is Desirous of coming under our Protection, and came to ask me whether we would give it Him. I acquainted Him as a Servant of this Sircar, the Hon'ble Company could not by their Treaties with this State ; but if He could procure leave to quit Poonah, I apprehended they would readily give it Him. He requested I would write the Hon'ble the President and Council for this Purpose, and hoped they would give Him permission to retire to Bombay with His Family, in case He should find it necessary, as, whenever He left Poonah, He meant to have the Durbars leave.

*Letters seized* **Tuesday 21st.** The Muckerdum of Our Pattamars informs me that all Cossids &ca going to and From Bombay and Surat are stoped, and all Country Letters seized ; but Europeans Letters pass. However as this may be Prejudicial to Our Trade, besides the Insults offered to the Hon'ble Company, sent to acquaint the Chitnees of it, and to Desire He would represent the impropriety of it to the Durbar, and procure an Order to put a stop to so unjust a Proceeding. He returned for Answer the whole was without any License from Ragobah, but He would speak to Him and prevent it's happening again.

*The Nizam* It is reported in Town the Nizam has taken the Field and Ordered Ruchnah Dowlah to join him at Daroor<sup>1</sup> ; and

1. Dharur in Hyderabad.

it's thought He and the Bouncello have entered into some private agreement.

**Wednesday 22nd.** This morning I am Credibly in- *Haidar*  
formed that Ragobah has wrote Heyder Ally to send Assis- *Ali*  
tance to the Tanjore Rajah, who is Closely Besieged by  
Mahomed Ally Caun; but as I suppose He can scarce imagine  
Heyder will Comply with His Request without something to  
Induce Him thereto, I am afraid the Letter is accompanied  
with some Offers; therefore shall defer acquainting the  
Gentlemen of Madrass of this Circumstance, till I can dis-  
cover whether any Proposals have been made or not.

**Thursday 23rd.** Ragobah during His Confinement, *Treaty*  
I am told, entered into an Agreement with Heyders Vackeel *with*  
to restore to His Master the whole Country Conquered *Haidar*  
by Madah Row, only reserving a Chout of fifteen lacks a *Ali*  
Year, provided he would effect His release and settle Him  
in the Peshwaship. The Vackeel is now Demanding the  
Performance of this Treaty; but as Heyder in no shape  
Contributed to the Bringing about the Revolution, it is  
uncertain how this Affair will terminate.

At 2 O'clock P. M. received a Letter from the Select *Com-*  
Committee at Bombay, as entered hereafter, and am ex- *plaints*  
tremely sorry to find they Judge necessary so repeatedly *resented*  
to direct me to Attend to my Instructions, as I have not in  
one Instance disobeyed them, but always have had them in  
view in every Transaction that has happened between me  
and this Government. The Present State of Affairs here,  
I agree with the Committee, are favourable; and some  
Circumstances may happen to faciliate [*facilitate*] the  
wished for Cession, tho' I can by no means think there is a  
Certainty of it, as they seem to Hint. I have ever had the  
Interest of my Employers in sight, and from my Arrival  
till now watched the Durbar with the utmost Attention for  
an opportunity to attain the Ends for which I was sent



hither ; and my Superiors may be Assured, should ought at present Offer to that Purpose, no Danger or Difficulty shall Intimidate me from Benefiting thereby. I am also Concerned to find the Committee have twice misconstrued what I have wrote them into a Wish on my Part to return to Bombay ; my answer to their letter of the 16th February will, I flatter myself, sufficiently acquit me of the 1st. But as to the last, I cannot comprehend how they could take what I wrote under the 7th Instant for a desire to return ; which was Verbatim, "Should an Accident happen to Ragobah, or He be Attacked here by a Foreign Power, I must then be under the necessity of quitting the Place" ; surely quitting the Town of Poonah does not imply my return to Bombay ; which I had no Idea of doing, but meant to retire to some Village, there to wait the Issue and my Superiors Orders ; for I Continue still to think, had this Place been Attacked, it would neither have shown Spirit or Conduct in me to have stayed, till an Indian Army (which is Destitute of Discipline or Regularity) had Destroyed and set fire to everything they might not have been able to have carried away ; and as there was a likelihood some Disturbance would happen here, either at home or from abroad, I applied for twelve Sepoys, they being equally necessary whether I remained in Town or retired out of it, as the Peons I have hired here are not to be trusted, being Inhabitants of the Town. I am therefore the more Disappointed at their being refused me, particularly as my Superiors found their Denial on a supposition I only wanted them to Escort me on the Road to Bombay, to which Place, I cannot help repeating, I had no thought of going till I had received Orders for that Purpose ; and as a Proof of this being my fixed Resolution, my Answer to the Message, Ragobah sent me by the Chitnees the 10th instant, will fully Evince.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at

POONAH.

*Letter  
from  
Bombay*

SIR,

The Letter You Addressed to the Board, Containing *Reference to letter*  
 Advice of the Assasination of Naron Row and of Ragobahs  
 being seated in the Durbar, was duly received as well as  
 that You wrote a few Days after to this Committee, com-  
 municating such Intelligence as you had been able to pick  
 up of the Present State of the Affairs of the Poonah Gov-  
 ernment.

It is not in Our Power to give You any precise Direc- *No new*  
 tions for your Present Conduct further than what are Con- *instruc-*  
 tained in your Instructions, dated the 26th September,<sup>1</sup> *tions*  
 1772, and in Our Letter of the 16th February last ; but we  
 imagine that the Present Conjuncture is as favourable a  
 one as could have Offered for accomplishing the several  
 Points particularly wished for by fixing a Resident at  
 Poonah ; and we therefore stongly recommend that You  
 Diligently attend to your Instructions and to Our Letter  
 above mentioned, when we do not Doubt but some Circum- *Prospects*  
 stances will fall out to Faciliate [*facilitate*] the accomplish- *of success*  
 ment of the Cession from the Morattahs of the Several  
 Places the Hon'ble Company are Desirous of acquiring on  
 this side India, provided you Conduct yourself with that  
 Spirit and Address which is requisite in the Present Cir-  
 cumstances of Affairs, and not think of retiring from  
 Poonah, as you hint your Intention of Doing ; for in this  
 Juncture your Presence is more particularly necessary at  
 the Durbar ; and We know of no Ill Consequences that  
 can result to you, even should Poonah be Attacked by the  
 Foreign Power, which, you seem to apprehend, may be the

1. See *Diary* September 29, 1772.

Case. We therefore Positively Direct that You do not quit Poonah without our Express Permission first obtained for that purpose ; and we must here observe that this is the second time we have had Occasion to disapprove of such an Intention on your part. Because We Disapprove of your quitting Poonah, We do not send the Sepoys you desire might be sent for your Protection in your return hither.

We are your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

NATH. STACKHOUSE

DANIEL DRAPER

WILLIAM TAYLER.

Bombay Castle, 18th Sept. 1773.

*Help for Tanjore* **Saturday 25th.** Having made strict inquiry respecting what Ragobah wrote Heyder, find that He has not only wrote Him but also Morah Row Gorparah to Assist the King of Tanjore in case Mahomed Ally Caun does not raise the Siege, which Ragobah it seems has wrote Him to do ; and to Induce Heyder to comply with His Request, He has empowered His Vackeel, Appajee Ram, to acquaint His Master that He will give Him the Forts and Mudgurry, Burrah Bellapore and Huscootah.<sup>1</sup>

*Letter to Madras* **Sunday 26th.** Very early this morning addressed the following Letter to the Select Committee at Fort St. George.

To

THE HON'BLE ALEXANDER WYNCH, ESQR.

President and Governor &ca Members of the

Select Committee at Fort St. George.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

*Reference to letter* I last Addressed Your Honor &ca the 9th Instant, Duplicate of which is Enclosed ; and on the 18th I was Favoured with Yours of the 13th Ult.

1. Mudgere, Balapur, Hoskote ; see Appendix No. 30.

I return your Pattamars Principally to Advise You *Help for*  
 that Ragobah has wrote Heyder to send immediate Assis- *Tanjore*  
 tance to the King of Tanjore in case Mahomed Ally Caun  
 does not raise the Siege ; and I am informed this Letter is  
 accompanied with the Offer of the Districts of Huscootah,  
 Ballapore and Mudgurry to Induce Him to comply with this  
 request ; a Letter is also Dispatched to Morah Row Gorparah  
 to the same purport. Affairs remain nearly the same as  
 mentioned in my last ; nor can it be known how they will *State of*  
 terminate, untill Ragobah has been to Setterah (for which *uncer-*  
 Place he sets out in two Days), and is Invested by the *tainty*  
 Rajah with the Sirpaw of Peshwah. The Bouncello, whom  
 Ragobah, Invited to attend him to Setterah, but limiting Him *Mudaji*  
 to about 5,000 Cavalry, is on His March hither with a *Bhonsle*  
 large Force, accompanied by His son, Deriabai, Janojees  
 Widow, and His Brother, Sabajee, with whom He has  
 accommodated matters. Should Moodajee be sincere in his  
 Friendship to Ragobah, most likely the latter will be quiet-  
 ly settled in His Government ; but His bring [*bringing*] so  
 great a Force with Him seems to Indicate He has some  
 Views of His Own ; and this, most of the Ministers as well  
 as the Principal People and Merchants are apprehensive of ;  
 for which Reason they are privately carrying away their  
 Treasures ; and I am told Ragobah has since wrote Him to  
 bring no more than the Number first limited. Vamon Row *The chiefs*  
 and Anant Row Rastiah, the Officers commanding the Dis- *of Miraj*  
 tricts of Meritz [*Miraj*] and Wayne [*Wai*], may also give *and Wai*  
 Ragobah some Trouble, as it's said they are at the Head of  
 20,000 Men, and it's believed will not acknowledge Him ;  
 the former having evaded to Obey His Orders for repairing  
 to Poonah by acquainting Him by Letter He will meet him  
 at Setterah.

A few Days ago Vissajee Punt arrived from Bram- *Maratha*  
 pore [*Burhanpur*] with a few Troops, as did Conde Row *generals*

*Ragoba's* Derriker, who was some Months ago Dispatched with two  
*army* Thousand Horse to the Assistance of Sabajee Bouncello.  
 Ragobah's Army, notwithstanding the Junction of these two  
 Officers, does not Amount to above 20,000 Horse and Foot,  
 though He has sent Orders for all His Jahgier officers to  
 join Him, who are daily coming in, except Tookajee Holker  
 and Madjee Scindy, who still remain at Ugen [*Ujjain*] and  
*Impend* Jainagur [*Jaipur*]. As soon as Ragobah has received the  
*ing* Sirpaw, it is most likely He will send Forces to different  
*changes* parts of His Dominions, and also make many alterations in  
 this Ministry; which should He do, I shall not fail to Advise  
 You thereof.

Poonah, 26th September, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
 HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,  
 Your most Obedt Servt.

*Ragoba's* Early this morning Ragobah went to His Tent, pitched  
*departure* a small Distance out of the Town, and means to set out for  
 Tulzapore in a few Days to perform some Religious Cere-  
 monies; from whence, it's said, He means to proceed to  
 Setterah; but purposes to meet Moodajee Bouncello on the  
 Road, not choosing He should come to Poonah.

*Audience* Being informed by the Chitnees this Evening would be  
 a proper time to make Ragobah the Present, I desired He  
 would acquaint Him, if it was agreeable, I would wait on  
 Him; and accordingly I was sent for and found Ragobah  
 sitting in full Durbar; after a few general Compliments I  
 made Him and His Son, Amrut Row, the following Present  
 in the name of the Hon'ble Company; to the former: One  
 Horse, One Diamond Sirpage, one Sirpaw Complete, one  
 pair of Shawls, one pair of Kinkoobs, six yards of Crimson  
 Sattin and three yards of Brocade; and to the Latter: one  
 Diamond and Ruby Sirpage,<sup>1</sup> One pair of Shawls, one pair

1. Serpeych, ornament worn in front of the turban. (Hobson-  
 Jobson)

of Kinkoobs,<sup>1</sup> six yards of Pink Sattin, six yards of Silver Lace and two yards of Brocade. Observing Ragobah was taken up with signing a number of Papers, I waited for some time ; but finding no prospect of His being Disengaged and wishing to have an Opportunity of talking to Him in private, as this most probably would be the only one I should have for some Months, and the only Method I had to Induce Him to withdraw was to Deliver to Ramajee Chitnees a Paper containing five Articles, as entered hereafter ; and on His speaking to Ragobah, He instantly rose and retired unto an Inner Tent, desiring me to follow Him ; however before He would hear anything I had to say, He sent for Chintoo Whittol, Appajee Madew and the Chitnees ; when I again repeated what I had said on my two Former Visits ; but this producing no proposals or the least Intimation of His wanting our Assistance, I was under the necessity of desiring the Chitnees to set forth the different Articles ; the four first being Explained, Nanna Furneese<sup>2</sup> came in unexpectedly, and said the Durbar had also Some Complaints to make, and particularly mentioned our giving Passes to Foreign Vessels ; which I denied, and Declared we never gave any but to those immediately under our protection ; notwithstanding Nanna urged some other things equally false. Ragobah told me He would comply with my request and give the Sundry Orders, and at the same time would send a Carkoon with a List of the Complaints they had to make, which He expected I would Answer ; this I informed Him I most readily would do, and then mentioned the fifth Article, which I told Him was the more necessary to be Complied with, as it was uncertain how long He might be Absent. Nanna replied the House

*The five Articles*

*Durbar's complaints*

*Ragoba's decision*

*The Fifth Article*

1. Kinkob, gold brocade. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. Nana Farnavis' presence and his active part in the discussion show that he had apparently made friends with Ragobah.

there specified was occupied by Judersings People ; but there was Ground enough in the New Pent<sup>1</sup> I might have to Build on ; on which Ragobah ordered Appajee Madew and the Chitnees to prepare the Articles for Him to sign, and Dispatched me.

*The five Articles* Copy of 5 Articles delivered to Ragobah the 26th September, 1773.

1. That notwithstanding the Losses, our Merchants had suffered from the Depredations of the Officers of His Fleet, had been settled at the Trifling Sum of Rupees 30,915-3-50, and two Orders had already been Issued for the Payment, the first, nine years ago, and the Second, five years,<sup>2</sup> they neither of them yet have been complied with.

2. That different Orders had also passed for the Delivery of a Bottellah belonging to Nusserwanjee Moody and a Bottelah to be given to Byramji Homjee in lieu of His Grab ; neither of which has yet been done.

3. That in the beginning of last year a vessel was carried into Anjinwell, and I procured the Durbars Order for Her release, but not the Cargoe. The Vessel was delivered up, but no Rigging or Anchors ; for want of which She drove ashore in the River and was entirely lost. I therefore am to request His Order for the amount of the Vessel and Cargoe.

4. That in March last a vessel, the Mammoody Savoy, with our Pass and Colours going to Aden, was seized by His Fleet off Danoo, and Carried into Gariah. The Governor of Bombay wrote the Subedar of that place for Her release, but He refused giving Her up without an Order from this Durbar. This Order I request, and it is necessary to acquaint you this Vessel has been Employed

1. Penth or pettah, the extra rural suburb of a fortress, or the town attached to a fortress. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. See Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 176.

by Merchants under the English Protection for fifteen Years Past.

5. That after I arrived Here, and the Durbar Consented and approved of my remaining as the Hon'ble Companys Resident, and was pleased to signify the same by Letters both [to] the Hon'ble Company and Governor and Council at Bombay, They Judged it necessary a Place should be fixed for my Constant Residence. Three different Orders were accordingly passed for my having Judersings House: the first to Trimbuck Row Mamma, the Second to Narrow Appah, and the Third to Hurry Punt; but I am yet living in a Garden, the owner of which has frequently applied to me to go out; but unless He [Raghoba] will Order me a House, I know not where to remove to, as no one chooses to let me a House without His approbation.

**Monday 27th.** This morning sent to Appajee Madew and the Chitnees to request they would procure Ragobahs sign to the Different Articles before He set out; but according to their Dilatory way of Doing Business they sent me word it could not be done to Day. *Further delay*

**Tuesday 28th.** In the morning sent again to Appajee Madew and the Chitnees for the Orders; but the Latter sent me word, as Ragobah was Engaged in Religious Ceremonies and meant, as soon as he had done, to set out for Corah Gome [Koregaon], nothing could be done.

**Wednesday 29th.** Thinking it Extraordinary that any Delay should be made in Issuing the Orders, when Ragobah had told me Himself they should be given, I Judged it necessary to go and talk with the Chitnees, That I might know the meaning of it; and accordingly Visited Him this morning, when He told me some Objections had been started by Vissajee Punt; but as He was Convinced they were false, He made no Doubt of being able to obviate them *The Chit-nis' promise*



when He would get an Opportunity of talking with Rago-  
bah ; and as He meant not to leave Town this Day or two,  
He said I had better send a Man with Him to Camp, when  
He would Endeavour to get everything finished.

*News from Ellichpur* An Express Camel arrived two Days ago from  
Ellispore [*Ellichpur*], which brings Intelligence that Ruch-  
nah Dowlah and Ismael Caun, as soon as the news of  
Naron Rows Death arrived, settled Matters and took an  
Oath of mutual Friendship ; on which the latter Offered  
the Former the Fort of Ellispore, which He Declined ; and  
that since this accommodation Moodajee Bouncello has met  
them, and, it's thought, has entered into some private agree-  
ment with Ruchnah Dowlah ; their whole Force with that of  
Sheikh Ebrahim Caun Downsaw amounted to about 80,000  
Men when this Express left Berar.

*Letter to Bombay* This evening addressed the following Letters to the  
Select Committee and Board.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Members of

the Select Committee at Bombay.

HON'BLE SIR AND SIRs,

*Unjust accusation* On the 23rd Instant I received Your Honor &cas  
Commands of the 18th, and am extremely Concerned You  
should Judge it necessary again to Direct me to Attend to  
the Instructions given me by the Board on my first seting  
out, as I am not Conscious I ever Disobeyed them, but on  
the Contrary have always had them in View in every  
Transaction between me and this Government. I am also  
sorry to find You have misunderstood what I wrote You  
under the 27th, and [*that you*] think I either meant or  
wished to come to Bombay, when the Hon'ble Companys  
Affairs Demanded my Presence here, by quitting Poonah  
in case it should be attacked or an Accident happen to

Ragobah. I meant only to have retired to some village, there to have waited the Issue and Your Commands. But I had not the least thoughts of returning to Bombay till I had Your Orders for that Purpose. I can also Assure you I should not have applied for twelve sepoys, had I not wanted them greatly; and am therefore the more Distressed at their being refused me, as those I have hired here cannot be trusted with Letters or as common Sentinels even when things are in the utmost Tranquility, much less, was any disturbance [*to*] happen; nor is it possible to procure People that will be Attached to Us in a place of this kind, where their Families, Houses &ca are in the hands of the Government; for this reason I hope my request may be Complied with.

The Situation of Affairs here, I entirely agree with your Honor &ca, is favourable for Us; and should anything offer to Faciliate [*facilitate*] the wished for Cession (of which there is no immediate Prospect), you may rest Assured no Danger or Difficulty shall prevent me from Benefiting thereby. Ragobah sent the 10th Instant to acquaint me He was willing to give Six Lack of Rupees, the Sum before Offered by the Durbar, for Broach; and as He was going to Setterah to receive the Sirpaw and afterwards take the Field, He meant to Dispatch me befor's He set out, and on His return would send for me again. To the former I sent Him an Answer agreeable to Your Orders of the 1st April; and to the Latter that I was surprised at such a Message after He Himself had told me at two Different times He had no Objections to my remaining here. However if He thought the Friendship of the English not worth the Continuing, He might certainly send me away. But the Hon'ble Company would expect every other Vackeel to be Dispatched also, otherwise it would have the appearance of a Breach of Treaty. Ragobah, on being told

*Favour-  
able  
opportu-  
nity*

*Two pro-  
posals*

*Mostyn's  
reply*

*Raghoba's  
decision*

this, immediately sent the Chitnees to inform me It was not His Intention to Order me away, but only to give me leave during his Absence ; and as that was not agreeable, I might stay as usual and go and come at Pleasure. I am the more particular in mentioning this, that your Honour &ca may Obsrrve how far I was from having any thoughts of withdrawing to Bombay.

*Letter from and to Madras*      Enclosed is a Copy of a Letter I received the 18th from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, and on the 26th I Addressed them to advise them of my having learnt for certain that Ragobah has wrote Letters both to Heyder and Morah Row Gorparah to send immediate Assistance to the Tanjore Rajah, in case the Nabob of Arcot does not raise the Siege of Tanjore; and also to acquaint them of its being said Ragobah has made Heyder an Offer of the Forts and Districts of Huscootah, Mudgurry and Burrah Ballapore, the readier to comply with His request.

*Fateh Singh's offer*      Some days ago Futtysings Vackeel, Sewram Jeevajee, waited on me in behalf of His Master, who, He says, is apprehensive Ragobah will endeavour to place Govind Row, His Brother, in His Government. He is therefore Desirous of entering into an Alliance with the Hon'ble Company, but to be Valid only on Condition Ragobah should take such a step ; for he did not otherwise mean to break with the Peshwah. He proposes that the Hon'ble Company and His Master Jointly take the whole of the Guzarat Country (the Revenues of which, including Surat, amount to about Eighty Lack of Rupees annually, and which is nearly Divided between this Government and Him) and the share Possessed by the Morattahs for ever to Devolve to the Hon'ble Company, except the following Places, Amadabad, the Capital, and the half of Patlaid [*Petlad*] Purgonnah ; also that Broach be Delivered up to His Master, it being in the share belonging to Him; and each pay their own

Troops. I at once told Him I thought these Proposals by *Mostyn's* no means equal, as they were binding to Us and leaving *reply* Futtysing to act as might suit His Convenience ; and should Your Honour &ca be even inclined to an Alliance with His Master, You would Undoubtedly expect very different Terms before any Treaty could be Concluded. Tho' these offers are by no means Advantageous or equivalent to the Risk of a Rupture with this Government, yet as the Vackeel earnestly requested me to write you and obtain Your Answer, I think it my duty to acquaint your thereof.

Ballajee Naique Beriah and Anant Row Jeevajee have *Request* applied to me for the English Protection. The former is a *for protection* very Principal Merchant here, & has for some time past held a Considerable Post under the Government. But since Ragobahs accession it has been taken away. The latter is a Bramin, and has since the Death of His Brother, Govind Suram, held a most Advantageous Employment, which has been taken away from Him likewise. As neither of them are at present in the Sircars Service, one being only in the Character of a Merchant and the other meaning to have the Durbars leave to retire, I promised them I would write Your Honor &ca ; therefore have to request you will inform me as soon as possible whether You will be pleased to give them the Hon'ble Companys Protection and permit them to withdraw to Bombay with their Families &ca, should they Judge it necessary. Ballajee Naique Beriah also acquainted me, in case You granted His Request, He had about two Lack of Rupees in Soon Goor [*Songarh*] Fort near Surat, which he would be glad to Lodge in the Hon'ble Companys hands, provided You would admit thereof and would give Directions for its being paid to the Gentlemen at Surat.

Poonah, 29th Sept. 1773.

I am with Respect,  
Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,  
Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

Letter to To  
Bombay

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, Esqr.

President and Governor &ca Council

on Bombay.

HON'BLE SIR and SIRs,

*Reference to letters Amod incident* Your Commands of the 3rd Instant I duly received the 9th, with the several Papers mentioned to be Enclosed therein as per List of the Packet ; the next day the Chitnees making me a Visit, I took the opportunity of acquainting Him I had received Your Answer to the Durbars Complaint about Ahmoode [*Amod*] &ca, and made no Doubt of being able to give them full Satisfaction on that head,

*Audience* whenever they pleased to hear me. On the 26th I waited on Ragobah at his Tent without the Town, whither He went early that morning in order to proceed to Setterah, and made Him and His son, Amrut Row, the necessary

*Bombay demands* Present in the Hon'ble Companys name. Finding it was uncertain whether He would return from Setterah after having received the Sirpaw or take the Field, and it might probably be some Months before an Opportunity would offer for me to talk with Him again, I delivered to Him a List of the Demands the Hon'ble Company had upon this Durbar. He immediately retired with me, and sending for some of His Ministers, the whole was explained to Him ;

*Poona com-plaints* and He promised to Issue the necessary Orders ; but He said He had also some Complaints to make, which he would send me in Writing ; and Expected I would Answer them, which I acquainted Him I was ready at all times to do. Notwithstanding the above, I was not able to procure His Dispatch for the Orders before He set out for Corah Gome [*Koregaon*] ; but the Chitnees, who is yet here & purposes going tomorrow, has promised to use His Endeavour to obtain them before Ragobah leaves that Place.

Some days ago Mahomed Ashroff, the Dutch Vackeel *Dutch* from Surat, arrived Here and had an Audience at the Dur- *envoy* bar, gave the Annual Present and, I hear, has got His Dispatches for His return.

Ragobah has Ordered about 500 Horse and some Foot *Raghoba* into the Conkon, which, I am Credibly informed, are to keep *takes* a watch on the Conduct of the Officers Commanding there, *steps* being Doubtfull of their Fidelity.

Some Days ago Vissajee Punt Benewallah and Conde *Maratha* Row Derriker Arrived, the first from Hindostan with about *generals* 3,000 Horse, and the latter with 2,000 from Berar, where he had been sent by Naron Row to the Assistance of Sabajee Bouncello.

Moodajee Bouncello, who Ragobah had wrote for to *The* come here to Attend Him to Setterah, but limiting Him to *Bhonsles* 5,000 Horse, is on His March hither with all His Force, accompanied by His Son, Deriabay, Janojees Wife, and His Brother, Sabajee, with whom He had made up matters; and by an Express Camel, arrived last night from Berar, it's Confidently said is Joined by Ruchnah Dowlah, Ismael Caun and Sheikh Ibrahim Caun Downsaw, the whole consisting of 80,000 Men. The Nizam has also taken the Field, and His Brother, Bursallat Jung, at the Head of Thirty-two thousand Horse, with the Rajahs of Carnool and Cirpah, who, it's believed, will Join Him. Should Moodajee Bouncello be sincere in his Friendship to Ragobah, it's most probable the latter will be settled in His Government. But His bringing so large an Army seems to Indicate He has some Views of His own; and this most of the Ministers as well as principal People and Merchants here are apprehensive of; for which reason they are privately carrying away their Families and Treasures. Vamon Row and *The chiefs* Anant Row Rastiah, the Officers commanding the Districts *of Miraj* of Metitz, [*Miraj*] and Wayme [*Wai*], are also at the *and Wai*

Head of a large Body of Men &, it's believed, will not acknowledge Ragobah ; the former having evaded to obey His Order for repairing to Poonah, but has *Raising* wrote He will meet him at Setterah. Ragobah, ever *troops* since He seized the Government, has been calling together all the Jaghier Officers, and had about 20,000 Horse when He left Poonah ; and may, when the whole are joined, be 50,000 Strong ; but it's very Doubtfull whether they will be true to Him, as there seems to be already many different Parties amongst them.

Poonah, 29th Sept. 1773.

I am with Respect,

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Your most Obedt, and Humble Servt.

*Accounts*

**Thursday 30th.** The Factory Disbursements being Closed for this month are agreeable to the following extract.

Extract of the Factory Disbursements of Sept. 1773.

To Factory Charges ...	...	...	691-1-50
To Provision money ...	...	...	165-,-,,
Ramjee Adowjee advanced Him ...	...	...	25-,-,,
To Stable Charges ...	...	...	65-,-,,
To Charges Extraordinary ...	...	...	107-1-,,
To account Presents ...	...	...	2515-,-,,

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Rupees ... 3568-2-50

Poonah, 30th Sept. 1773.

Errors Excepted.

**October.**

*Ruckn-ud-  
dawlā*

**Friday 1st.** Letters were this Evening received from Ellispore [*Ellichpur*], that bring Intelligence that Peace is Concluded between Moodajee Bouncello and Ruchnah Dowlah thro' the Mediation of Ismael Caun, but nothing is yet settled with Sabajee. Ruchnah Dowlah in Consequence

is set out for Hyderabad; and Moodajee, to prevent Sabajees *Mudaji Bhonsle* making any Disturbance, has left the greatest part of His Forces with Imael Caun, but meant Himself with Ragojee and Deriabay to leave Eilispore at Dessorah with about seven thousand Horse in Order to meet Ragobah.

**Monday 4th.** Ragobah has altered His Resolution of *The* going Himself to Setterah to receive the Sirpaw of Peshwah. *sirpaw* But means to send His Son, Amrut Row, for it, and intends proceeding in the mean time to Scindy Tenk, [*Sidh-Tek*] to receive Moodajee Bouncello.

**Tuesday 5th.** I am told Amrut Row with Butcha-boy<sup>1</sup> and the Pretenery<sup>2</sup> set out a Day or two ago from Corah Gome [*Koregaon*] for Setterah to receive the Sirpaw for Ragobah.

**Wednesday 6th.** A letter was received here this morning from Camp by a person of Consequence, advising *in* him to remove His Family and Effects as fast as possible; *Maratha camp* for everything in Camp was in the greatest Confusion, as no proper Minister or Officer had been yet appointed; and that from appearances it seemed as if the Bouncello and Mogul were United.

**Thursday 7th.** This morning Ragobah marched from *Raghoba* Corah Gome, [*Koregaon*] and means to Halt a few Days at Jezaree.<sup>3</sup>

**Sunday 9th.** The Chitnees sent to Advise me He was *Agent* immediately to set out for Camp, and I accordingly ordered a Person to attend Him with four Sepoys (two to be Dis- *sent to camp* patched Occasionally, and the others to remain with the Chitnees, who has promised me to write if anything

1. See Grant Duff, I, 702.

2. Pritee Needhee, an office originally created by Raja Ram. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 315) He was the ninth Head-Minister, and his descendants now hold the Audh State.

3. Jejuri about 25 miles south of Poona.



materially happens) to Endeavour to Obtain the Different Orders<sup>1</sup> Ragobah promised me at my last visit.

*Letter from Madras* **Monday 11th.** At Noon received Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, advising of the Success of the Hon'ble Companys Arms against Tanjore. Judging this Intelligence of great Importance to Our Hon'ble Masters Affairs in general, instantly sent Copy thereof to my Superiors at Bombay and Addressed them as entered Hereafter.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Sir,

*Conquest of Tanjore* We have been duly favoured with Your Letter of the 4th August, which reached Us the 28th of the same Month, and were glad to find by the Intelligence contained therein that there was little Probability of our meeting with any Interruption from the Morattahs in Our Operations against Tanjore. Defered replying to Your said Letter untill this time, in the Expectation of Our being able to Cummmunicate to You some important Advices respecting Tanjore; and We now have the Satisfaction to acquaint You that the Place was taken by Assault<sup>2</sup> after a Practicable Breach made the 17th Inst, and the Rajah with His Family and Principal Officers were made Prisoners. What added to the Satisfaction we feel on this Occasion is the little Loss we have Sustained during the Expedition.

*Request for news* By Advices received Yesterday from Poonah We learn that Naron Row had been killed, and that His Uncle Ragobah, (or Ragonath Row) had been seated on the Musnud in His room. As it's probable this Revolution may

1. Orders to settle the demands made by Mostyn on September 26, 1773, where the demands are mentioned as the five articles. See Appendix No. 14.

2. Appendix No. 29.

be attended with Extraordinary Consequences, We beg you will keep Us Consequently advised of whatever may Occur as well as of the future View and Designs of the Morattahs.

Fort St. George, 20th September, 1773.

We are with Esteem,  
Your most Obedient Humble Servants,  
ALEXANDER WYNCH                      J. M. STONE.  
JOHN SMITH

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

*Letter to*

President and Governor &ca Members of the Select *Bombay*  
Committee at BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I last Addressed Your Honor &ca the 29th Ultimo, and *Conquest* now have the Pleasure to acquaint You I this instant *of Tanjore* received a Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, advising me of the Conquest of Tanjore. Judging this intelligence of great importance, I will not delay a Moment to Enclose Copy thereof, & Beg leave to Congratulate You on the Success of Our Hon'ble Masters Arms.

Poonah, 11th October, 1773.

I am with respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your most Obedt, Humble Servant.

**Friday 15th.** Ragobah left Jezeree Yesterday, and *Raghoba* Marched to Paid Gome [*Pedgaon*] near Scindy Tenk [*Sidh-Tek*], where He is to receive the Bouncello; Amrut *Amrit* Row has received the Sirpaw from the Rajah for Ragobah, *Rao* and is returning with it to His Father.

**Sunday 17th.** This morning I received a Letter from *Mudaji* the Person I sent to Camp, informing me that Moodajee *Bhonsle* Bouncello on the 14th arrived there, with only four Horsemen, unexpectedly and to the surprize of Ragobah,

whose latest Intelligence of Him was of His being Forty  
*Raghoba's* Coase off. By another Letter I learn that since Moodajees  
*suspicious* arrival Ragobah has put spys on all the old Ministers and  
 Great Officers, and it also Mentions Madjee Scindys having  
 placed Dank Chokeys all the way from Jainagur to the Mo-  
 rattah Camp.

**Tuesday 19th.** At noon the Person I sent with  
 Ramajee Chitnees returned without the Orders,<sup>1</sup> but He  
 acquaints me Ragobah has signed all the Articles, except  
 one, for Narron Appajee, the Governor, to comply with in  
 case I settle fifteen Articles He has sent. As soon as these  
 Articles are Translated, I shall be able to Judge what to  
 do with them.

*Maratha* This Evening a Man came from Camp, who brings  
*camp* intelligence that Amrut Row is arrived there with the  
 Sirpaw, as is also Moodajees Son, Ragojee, and Deriabay.

*The* **Wednesday 20th.** By Accounts this morning Rago-  
*Nizam* bah has Marched from Paid Gome with an intention to go  
 to Punderpore,<sup>2</sup> there to wait the Issue of the Nizams  
 Resolutions, who, it's thought, is inclined to act against  
 Ragobah.

*Raghoba* **Friday 22nd.** Sacaram Bappo has left Camp, and is  
*unpopular* come to His House at Sashwar<sup>3</sup> on pretence of Sickness.  
 It is also said that Trimbuckrow Mamma, Ramchandra  
 Gunnis, Bowen Row Pretenry, and Sadassew Ramchander,<sup>4</sup>  
 (all great Officers) are much Disgusted at Ragobah.

1. See October 9, 1773.

2. Pandharpur on the right bank of the Bhima.

3. Saswad situated 16 miles south-east of Poona city, it was  
 the original Deccan home of the Peshwa's family. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*,  
 XXII, 112)

4. See Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 705-706. He  
 slightly differs from Mostyn in speaking of those who became hostile  
 to Raghoba.

**Saturday 23rd.** This evening Letters from Camp mention that Ruchnah Dowlah has Plundered two or three Places belonging to this Government, and carried away several Bramin Men and Women. This News, it's said, has made Ragobah alter His Intentions of going to Punderpore, for He now is turned off into the Road leading to Beer, on which, it's imagined, He means to Retaliate for the Damage Done by Ruchnah Dowlah, as most of that Place belongs to Him.

Having got the Articles<sup>1</sup> Translated, find they are in purport the same as those I settled, when last Here, with Madah Row, therefore purpose writing Ragobah; and when I have His Answer, will Advise my Superiors thereof.

**Sunday 24th.** The last news from Hyderabad mentions the Nizams have taken the Field, tho' He was only a few Coase from His Capital; but Ruchnah Dowlah, Taver Jung, Sheik Ibrahim Caun Downsaw and Sabajee Bouncello were at Daroor. *The Nizams*

Received a Letter from the Select Committee at Bombay as entered Hereafter, and agreeable thereto Promised Amrut Row Jeevajee, and Ballajee Naique Beriah the Hon'ble Companys Protection, and also informed the Latter the Gentlemen at Surat had Orders to receive any Sums Tendered in His name. *Letter from Bombay*

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, Esqr.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at POONAH.

Sir,

Your Letters, dated the 29th of Septr and 11th Inst. *Fateh Singh* ant, have been duly received, and We entirely agree with You in Opinion that the proposals made by the Agent of

1. The 15 articles are mentioned in the *Diary* on October 19, 1773.

*Promise of protec-* Futtysing are totally inadmissible ; should He however  
*tion* hereafter make other Offers, You of course will acquaint Us with them. If those Persons think Proper to come to Bombay, who, You acquaint Us in Your Letter of the 29th Ulto, have applied for the Protection of the Company, We shall readily grant it to them, tho' in Case they should be Demanded back by the Poonah Circar, we must Act conformable to the Treaties subsisting between the Company and the Morattahs, Copies of all which are in Your Possession. Directions have been given to the Chief and Council of Surat for Receiving from the Agents of Ballajee Naique Beriah any sums of Money that may be Tendered them on His Accounts.

Bombay Castle, 18th October, 1773.

We are Your Loving Friends

WILLIAM HORNBY

WILLIAM TAYLER

DANIEL DRAPER

JOHN WATSON.

NATH. STACKHOUSE

*Sabaji Bhonsle* A Hircarra I sent to Sabajee Bouncellos Camp is returned and acquaints me, when He left Him, He was marching towards Nassick with about 15,000 Horse.

*Attack on Broach* **Monday 25th.** I am told for a Fact that Futtysing, His uncle, Conde Row,<sup>1</sup> and a Cooly Rajah<sup>2</sup> are actually Marched against Broach with 12,000 Foot and 7,000 Horse, and as it's Confirmed by a Letter from Futtysings Duan to Ballajee Naique Beriah, will not Defer a moment to inform my Superiors thereof and of the other Transactions to this time, and accordingly Addressed them the following Letter.

*Letter to Bombay*

1. Khanderao, the brother of Damaji Gaikwar.

2. A Koli Raja. There were a number of Kolis in Broach District. In 1908 their number was estimated at 62,000. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, IX, 22)

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, Esqr.

President &amp; Governor &amp;ca Council at

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR &amp; SIRs,

My last Address waited on Your Honor &ca the 29th *The sir-*  
 Ulto, in which I acquainted you of Ragobahs having set out *paw*  
 with an Intention of going to Setterah. He since has altered  
 His resolution and sent His Son, Amrut Row, thither for the  
 Sirpaw, who returned with it some Days ago, and Invested  
 his Father in the name of the Rajah with the usual Title of  
 Peshwah and the same Powers as Enjoined by His Prede-  
 cessors.

Agreeable to my last, I sent a Person with Ramajee *Raghoba's*  
 Chitnees to Camp to procure Ragobahs Dispatch for the *articles*  
 Sundry Orders He told me, on my Visit to Him, He would  
 give ; notwithstanding which, He has not given the Orders,  
 but Has signed for all of them being given, (except the  
 Vessel taken off Dannoo, which He has taken no notice of)  
 on Condition We settle fifteen Articles which He has sent  
 me ; But as I adjusted these Articles, when last Here, with  
 Madah Row, at the time I obtained the Orders for the Pay-  
 ment of the 30,915-3-50, which particularly mentions it,<sup>1</sup>  
 I intend writing Him ; and when I am Favoured with an  
 Answer, I will acquaint You therewith.

About a week ago Moodajee Bouncello came into Ra- *Mudaji*  
 gobahs Camp at Paid Gome with only four Horsemen, *Bhonsle*  
 having left His Army behind with His Son, Ragojee, and  
 Deriabay, who have since arrived also ; nothing can equal  
 Ragobahs Surprise at seeing Him, for He thought He was  
 forty Coase Distant, where one of the Express Camels,

1. See Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 168 and 176 ;  
 Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 627 ; Appendix No. 14 and  
 No. 24.

Placed on the Road to bring Intelligence, had left Him the night before. By the last Accounts received from Camp they still Continue together, but whether at Heart Friends or Enemies is not known, nor can it be Determined till Moodajee Separates and returns to His own Army, or Ragobah meets the Moguls ; it's however certain He [*Raghoba*] is Jealous of Him [*Mudaji*] ; for since His Arrival [*Mudaji's*] I am Credibly informed, He [*Raghoba*] has placed Spys to observe the motions of all the Great Officers and old Ministers. When Ragobah went from hence, He intended by slow Marches to give time for His Forces to Join Him ; but by what I can learn, His Army is rather Decreased than Recruited ; some leave Him in Disgust, and others for want of Pay ; and tho' most of His Troops are almost starving, I hear He has not money either to Advance them, or even allow them the usual Provisions. Vamon Row<sup>1</sup> and Anant Row<sup>2</sup> still Continue at their Respective Forts, the Former has sent His Brother to Ragobah, but whether He will be able to reconcile the Difference between them is a Doubt.

*Raghoba*  
*deserted* The Nizam, as I before advised Your Honor &ca, has taken the Field, but remains still near Hyderabad. However Ruchnah Dowlah, His Vizier, has already Plundered several villages belonging to this Governt and carried away some Bramin Men and Women, which is most likely the Cause of Ragobahs having changed His Resolution of His going to Punderpore ; and, it's said, has now turned off towards Beer, on which perhaps, as it mostly belongs to Ruchnah Dowlah, He will retaliate for the Damage done by the Moguls.

1. The chief of Miraj.
2. The chief of Wai and Gopikabai's brother. See Appendix No. 31.

Having Dispatched two Hircarrahs to the Different *Sabaji*  
 Camps for Intelligence, one of them returned Yesterday *Bhonsle*  
 and informs me He Marched some Days with Sabajee  
 Bouncello, who is at the Head of about 15,000 Horse, and  
 that He gives out He is on His way to Nassick ; what His  
 Motives are is not known, but supposed it's to concert  
 measures with Gopichabay.

I am sorry to Inform You Letters were Yesterday re- *Attack on*  
 ceived here By Ballajee Naique Beriah from Futtysings *Broach*  
 Duan, which mention that His Master, Joined by His Uncle,  
 Conde Row, and the Banbee, a Cooley Rajah, are Marched  
 against Broach at the head of 7,000 Horse and 12,000  
 Foot.

Poonah, 25th October, 1773.

I am with Respect,  
 HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,  
 Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

**Tuesday 26th,** Wrote Ragobah and the Chitnees, *Letter to*  
 agreeable to my Address to the Board Yesterday, and re- *Raghoba*  
 turned the Articles sent me.

To

RAGONATH ROW

After Compliments.

Agreeable to your Promise at Sam Gome to give the *Orders to*  
 necessary Orders on the Articles I had the Honour to pre- *redress*  
 sent you there, I sent a Person to Camp in hopes of Pro- *wrong's*  
 curing them ; he is returned with your Dispatch to them  
 all, except the Vessel taken off Dannoo and carried to  
 Vizandroog, with an Order to Narrow Appah to Comply  
 therewith, on Condition fifteen Articles, You have been *Fifteen*  
 pleased to send me, are settled at Bombay ; but as these very *Articles*  
 Articles were Adjusted by me, when I had the Pleasure of



being at Poonah,<sup>1</sup> as the Enclosed Copy of an order Issued in Consequence by the Durbar will sufficiently prove, I take the Liberty of repeating my Request in full Assurance You will perform your word and give your final Directions for the orders being immediately Issued ; and I am ready to Answer any Complaints You may have to make since the time the Above Order was Delivered to me.

Poonah, 26th October, 1773.

**Tuesday 26th.**

*Letter to  
R. Chitnis*

To RAMAJEE CHITNEES

After Compliments.

*Orders to  
redress  
wrongs*

I have been favoured With your Letter and the Articles, I presented to Ragobah at Samgome, With His Machlassey and Dunnee<sup>2</sup> to all, except the Vessel taken off Dannoo, to Which nothing is said ; this much surprizes me,

*Fifteen  
Articles*

as it is not only an unjust Act, but a Breach of Treaty. As to the fifteen Articles of Complaints You have sent me to Answer, all the Ministers know full well, and You in particular, being always present, that I settled and Adjusted these very Articles Verbally with Madah Row, when I was last at Poonah, in Consequence of which the Sircar gave the Order for the Payments of the Money, Copy of which I Enclosed, also a Letter for Ragobah, which I request You will Deliver. Enclosed likewise I return you the Sircars Articles (it not being Our Custom to settle things a Dozen times) and those I presented to Ragobah ; and hope now thro' your Influence to be favoured with final Orders for redressing the Complaints I have made. I depend on you for finishing this Business. If the Sircar has any Complaints to make since the giving this Order by

1. See October 25, 1773.

2. Makhiasi means sealing and closing a letter, dundee means a couple of sheets folded together. (Molesworth) The papers were folded and sealed.

Madah Row, I am ready to answer them if in my Power ; if not, I will transmit them to Bombay for my Superiors Orders.

Poonah, 26th October 1773.

Translate of the Durbar Answer to the five Articles I *Durbar's*  
presented Ragobah at Sam Gome. *answer*

1. The amount of the 30,915-3-50, the Sum to be paid the English Merchants for Goods taken from their Vessels, and for which an Order was given on Vissajee Punt, on Condition the English settled some Articles delivered them by the Sircar. But as these Articles were never Adjusted, the Money was not paid. However it's now again Determined, if the Articles are settled, the money must be paid ; for Which purpose must write to Narrow Appajee and Enclose Him Copy of the Articles, which He must deliver to Thomas Mostyn, Esqr. ; and after the Sircars Articles are settled at Bombay and returned to Narrow Appajee, He must be Ordered to give Thomas Mostyn, Esqr. a Transfer on some Merchants for the amount. A Letter to this Purpose is wanted to Narrow Appajee. Signed by Rago-  
bah to be given.

2. The Battello<sup>1</sup> and Vessel of 200 Candies<sup>2</sup> Burthen must be Delivered as mentioned in the last Order. A Letter to Trimbuck Ve Naique to this purport is wanted. Signed by Ragobah to be Complied with.

3. The Vessel with Cargoe must be Delivered conformable to the last Order. A Letter must therefore be

1. Batel, batelo, botella is a sort of boat used in Western India, Sind and Bengal. Other vessels called pattello, patellee are described as large flat-bottomed boats on the Ganges. (Hobson-Jobson)<sup>1</sup>

2. Candy, a weight used in Southern India, which may be stated roughly at 500 lbs, but varying much in different parts. (Hobson-Jobson)

written to Trimbuck Ve Naique to this Purport. Signed by Ragobah to be given.

4. No answer given.

5. An Empty House must be found for the English. But when Ragobah returns to Poonah, He himself will appoint the Place for their Residence.

*Fifteen  
Articles*

Translate of 15 Articles sent me by Ragobah.

1. When this Sircar Conquered Toolajee Angria's Country, the English got Possession of Vizindroog,<sup>1</sup> at which time an Agreement was made that this Government should keep Toolajee Angria above the Gots a Prisoner and not Assist Him or give Him any Post under them ; which they Performed. But when His Sons Deserted from hence, the English took them under their Protection ; and as this is contrary to agreement, They must be returned.

2. The friends or enemies of this Government are by Treaty<sup>2</sup> the Friends or Enemies of the English. But when this Sircar surrounded Jinjerah, the English sent their Fleets and Obligated them to raise the Siege. This is not Conformable to agreement ; therefore the English must make good the Expenses of that Expedition.

3. The people who have run away from Jinjerah are permitted to live at Bancoot, from whence they Plunder the Sircars Country ; as this is Contrary to agreement, They should not be permitted to remain there ; and if the English persist in keeping them, they must make good the loss this Sircar has already Sustained and what they sustain in future.

4. The English must only grant passes to Bombay Merchants, and not to Surat and other Ports ; and if they agree to this, it's well. But by their giving Passes to other

1. Vizidrug or Vijayadurg or Gheria, see Appendix No. 17.

2. See Appendix No. 22, I, II.

Merchants this Sircar suffer a Loss which must be made Good by the English.

5. The English frequently go to Tanna, Caranjar and Nagotan<sup>1</sup> in their Boats, and Come to an Anchor at those Places ; this they should not do without leave ; and when they go thither, they should write for Permission.

6. Heyder Noube<sup>2</sup> is an Enemy to this Sircar ; notwithstanding which the English supply Him with Powder, Ball and Ammunition. This is Contrary to agreement ; therefore they must not in future Sell Him any.

7. This Sarkar has power at Surat and put Chokeys<sup>3</sup> at Different Places for their People ; but since the English have had the Castle, they have given the Subjects of this Government a great deal of Trouble, and also taken many Merchants under their Protection, by which this Sircar receive a Less sum than formerly for their Chout ; to prevent this a Letter was sent from Bombay to the Chief of Surat, to which no attention was paid ; therefore the English must make good the Loss this Sircar has Sustained.

8. The English Fleet ought only to Convoy such Boats &ca as have Passes from Bombay ; but they on the Contrary, when they meet with this Governments Fleet, frequently force Boats &ca from them that have no Pass, and take them under their Flag. This is Contrary to agreement, and what they ought not to do ; for when they meet, they should only Salute each other ; and as the Sircar

1. Thana, Karanja, Nagothna. Nagothna is situated about 40 miles south-east of Bombay, on the right bank of the Amba or the Nagothna creek. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* Vol. XI, p. 352)

2. Haidar Ali.

3. The word probably stands here for a customs or toll station.

has suffered a loss by this Conduct, the English must make it good.

9. When the Moguls Officer had Surat Castle, He recovered conformable to Custom from this Government Amaldars.<sup>1</sup> But since the English have had possession, they increase or Decrease their Forces at Pleasure, and Force Money more than is usual from the Amaldar of Orpar &ca; and notwithstanding this is Contrary to Custom, the English at Surat Continue to Do it; therefore it must be put a stop to.

10. At Gorahgome<sup>2</sup> and Nizampore<sup>3</sup> &ca, Places on the River of Bancoot, this Sircar have Warehouses, and sometimes send their Gallivates thither for Batty &c, which at times are stoped, this is improper; therefore Orders must be given that the Sircars Gallivates pass and repass without Interruption.

11. The Chief of Surat gives Passes to Merchants Vessels; and as this is Contrary to agreement, He must in future discontinue this Practice.

12. The English took Mallawan<sup>4</sup>; and as that Place belongs to this Government, they must return it.

13. The Furneese of Basseen sent Madajee Kessow to Vizindroog with the Desmokey of Batty<sup>5</sup> to see; which

1. Revenue collectors.

2. Goregaon. In an old Itinerary and Directory of Western India (about 1826) it is stated "Boats of 50 khundies come up to Goregaon and may be hired occasionally to Bombay."

3. Nizampur is east of Janjira on the river Bankot.

4. Appendix No. 26.

5. "Over several villages, forming a small district, there are always two hereditary officers; the one called Deshmookh Dessae, or Zumeendar; and the other, Despandya, Deshleuk and Qanoongo." (Grant Duff, *History of the Marhattas*, I, 31) It seems to have been the Desmukh's chief duty to superintend the cultivation; hence the phrase "the desmokey of batty," apparently stands for the superintendent of the rice-fields.

having done, He returned by Sea to Basseen. But on his arrival at the Bar, met with Sciddee Subannah of Jafrabad,<sup>1</sup> who took the Gallivat and carried Her to Bombay; on application the English returned the Vessel. But there was missing 795 Rupees worth of Batty, some ready money, Cloths, &ca, necessaries, which must be returned.

14. In the Year Sane Samanut, in the time of Narrow Trimbeck, some Gallivats went to Sea, one of which named Bichery went to Tellicherry for Water, from whence She was seized and carried away.

15. This Sircars Cruizers formerly used to Convoy Merchant Vessels as far as Gogo<sup>2</sup> and Jumbooseer.<sup>3</sup> But in the year Sana Kamsa the Captain of the English Cruizers Ordered those belonging to this Sircar not to Sail in the Gulph of Cambay. This is improper and Contrary to Custom; therefore Orders must be given that the Vessels belonging to this Government may go thither as usual without any Hinderance.

**Thursday 28th.** The Hircarrah I sent to the Nizams *The* Camp is returned, and acquaints me the Nizam was, when *Nizam* He came away, Encamped about three Coase from Hyderabad with about 40,000 Men, Including Taver Jung and Ibrahim Caun Downsaw, who were then both with Him; that Ruchnah Dowlah with 14,000 was at Talvady near Daroor,<sup>4</sup> but was soon expected to Join His Master.

**Friday 29th.** I received Letters from Camp, which *Morabah* Inform me that Morabah Furneese and the Artillery are arrived there, and also that Letters from Hindostan bring Intelligence of the King and Nevalsing,<sup>5</sup> one of the Jaut

1. Jafrabad on the Kathiawar coast.
2. Gogo on the Kathiawar coasts on the Gulf of Cambay.
3. Jambusar opposite to Gogo, in Broach,
4. Dharur in Hyderabad.

5. Nawal Singh, though nominally regent for his infant nephew, Kheri Singh, was the de facto Rajah of Bharatpur. "Rajah Nawal

*War in* Rajahs, having had a Battle, in which the latter was  
*Hindu-* Defeated, which had reduced Him to sue for Assistance to  
*stan* the Seekers, and the reader to Induce them to give It Him,  
 Nevalsing has sent a Vackeel with Bills for 10 Lack of  
 Rupees.

*Accounts* **Sunday 31st.** The Disbursements for October being  
 Closed, they are agreeable to the following Extract.

Extract of the Account Disbursements for October 1773.

To Factory Charges	...	...	652-3-50
„ Provision Money	...	...	170-2-,,
„ Stable Charges	...	...	69-,,-,,
„ Hamjee Adowjee Linguist Advanced Him	100-,,-,,		
„ Charges Extraordinary	...	...	72-1-65

Rupees ... 1,064-3-15

Poonah, 31st October, 1773.

Errors Excepted.

### November.

*Raghoba* **Monday 1st.** I received a Letter which Informs me  
 Ragobah has Dispatched Trimbuck Row Mama with 10,000  
 Horse and some Artillery against Sabajee Bouncello and  
 Ruchnah Dowlah, and that a few Days ago He received  
 news of the Reduction of Tanjore, at which He was highly  
 Displeased.

*R. Chitnis* **Friday 5th.** The Chitnees arrived this Day from  
 Camp, having Obtained leave to go on a Pilgrimage to  
 Benares.

*Raghoba* **Monday 8th.** Ragobah, from what I can learn, is now  
 at Tulzapore, [*Tuljapur*], and Ruchnah Dowlah is on the  
 Gotts, 30 Coase from Him with about 40,000 Men, Exclusive  
 of those under Downsaw and Sobajee Bouncello, who keep  
 Singh opened negotiations with the Sikhs to secure their co-operation  
 against the Mughals." (*Qanungo, History of the Jats*, I, 251-252)

in Distinct Bodies some Distance from each other. Vackeels have passed between Ruchnah Dowlah and Ragobah ; but it's yet Doubtfull whether it will be peace or War.

**Friday 12th.** By Letters received this morning Ragobah is attacking Nuldroog<sup>1</sup> Fort belonging to the Nimal-*Naldrug besieged* ker, an Officer of the Nizams, and Trimbuck Row Mamma is within 6 Coase of Him ; but tho' Ruchnah Dowlah is within ten Coase of the Morattahs, He has as Yet made no Attempts to raise the Siege. Sabajee and Downsaw keep in the Centre between Mamma and Ruchnah Dowlah ; and it's thought they mean to come towards Poonah, in Order that Ragobah may be obliged to come this way and give up all thoughts of Nuldroog.

**Sunday 14th.** Ragobah has taken Nuldroog, which *Naldrug captured* was too Extensive to be Defended by the small Garrison that was in it ; Ruchnah Dowlah has since, it's said, Offered Ragobah 7 Lack of Jaghier, but He insists on 10, being what was agreed upon with Madah Row.

**Monday 15th.** Last night Orders Arrived from *Ready for flight* Ragobah to Narrow Appajee to get everything of Value in the Palace ready at a minutes warning to carry to Sing Gur [*Singur*] Fort.

The motive for this Extraordinary Order is Sabajee Bouncellos having Disappeared all of a sudden with His Army, and no one can find out which way He has taken ; but all suppose his Intentions are against Poonah ; however to prevent as much as possible His puting them into Execution, Ragobah has Dispatched Trimbuck Row Mamma this way with 20,000 Horse. Morabah Furneese has also

1. Naldrug village is in the Tuljapur taluk of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad. The fort of Naldrug is situated above the ravine of the Bori river and is one of the best fortified and most picturesque places in the Deccan. (*Imp. Gaz. India*, VIII, 337)



wrote His Family to remove all their Effects Immediately to Manoley, a Village in the District of Wayme [Wai]; which added to the foregoing has put the whole Town into the utmost Consternation, and almost all the Brahmin Families are removing, particularly those of the Principal ones: Nanna Furneese, Trimbuck Row Mamma and Anant Row Rastiah, &ca. But why Morabah and Nanna Furneese should prefer Ordering theirs to Wayme, when they have the Command of the Fort of Poll below, and Rye Gurr [Raigarh] on the Gotts, appears to me very Misterious, and Induces me to think they are more afraid of Ragobahs seizing them and their Effects, than any apprehension they are under of Sabajee Bouncellos Plundering Poonah.

*Raghoba*  
*unpopular* Ragobah has undoubtedly behaved in a very unaccountable manner, not only to Nanna and those that were Naron Rows Friends, but to all the Old Ministers and Great Officers Indiscriminately. All the Former have left Him in Disgust, except Morabah; even Sacaram Bappoo, who never forsook Ragobah in all His Troubles, He has slighted in such a manner as to Oblige Him to retire to His House on pretence of Sickness; and I am Confidently Informed Vamon Row and Anant Row Rastiah, two very Considerable Officers, have obtained the Nizams Protection in case of Accidents.

*Hydera-*  
*bad* Ragobah, having placed a Garrison in Nuldroog, is now proceeding towards Hyderabad, at the Head of 60,000 Men (including those under Trimbuck Row Mamma) It's thought He is secretly invited that way by the Nizam, who wishes to get out of the Hands of Ruchnah Dowlah, His Vizier, to whom He has for years past been in a manner a Prisoner. Ruchnah Dowlah with Downsaw are gone to meet the Nizam; and the Mogul Army, tho' they keep only a Days journey a Head of the Morattahs, do not seem to Oppose their March.

**Thursday 16th.** There is news of Sabajee Bouncellos *Fears* being on the Gotts near Beer [*Bhir*] Patree [*Pathri*], and *allayed* that Trimbuck Row Mamma is now got about eight Coase of this side of Him; which has eased the Town much of its Fears, tho' the Brahmins still Continue to go off with their Families. But the Shroffs and Merchants have not as yet any of them left Poonah.

Letters in Town mention Heyders Son having taken *Tipu* the Field with a Considerable Army and large Train of Artillery, but with what view is not known. The Chitnees, *Chitnis* meaning to Set out in a few Days for Banares, came to take leave, when I made Him the usual Present.

**Wednesday 17th.** Letters were this Evening received *Nana* from Nanna Furneese, which mention his Coming soon to *Farnavis* Poonah, therefore Directing His Family and that of Mora-bahs not to go away, as they were before Ordered to do, neither of them being yet gone; the former owing to Perwetty Bay,<sup>1</sup> Sudabahs wife, who persuaded them to remain a few Days for fear the Town should be too much Alarmed; and the latter, tho' they would attend to no *Roads* Intreaties, were stoped upon the Gotts by a Chokey placed *guarded* there by Ragobahs Orders, unknown to every one; and which, I hear, He had done on all the Great Roads about Poonah to prevent Peoples running away without leave.

**Friday 19th.** This afternoon Addressed the Select *Letter to* Committee at Fort St. George, and returned their Pattamars, *Madras* which I have Detained thus long in hopes of being able to give them some certain Accounts how Affairs are likely to go; but as this is impossible untill Ragobah and the Nizam meet, and being uncertain how long it may be before that will happen, wrote them following Letter.

1. Parvatibai, see Appendix No. 33.

To

THE HON'BLE ALEXANDER WYNCH, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Members of the Select  
Committee at FORT ST. GEORGE.

HON'BLE, SIR &amp; SIRS,

*Reference to letters* Duplicate of my last Address to Your Honor &ca of the 26th September is enclosed, and Your Favour of the 20th of that Month with the agreeable news of the Conquest of Tanjore reached me the 11th Ultimo; on which I beg leave to Congratulate You.

*Delay explained* I Detained Your Pattamar in hopes of being able to have returned Him with some important Intelligence respecting the Morattahs; but tho' I have waited thus long, nothing very material has Occurred.

*Ragobah* Conformable to what I wrote you in my last, Ragobah marched from Hence the latter end of September. He did not go to Setterah, but sent His Adopted Son, Amrut Row, thither for the Sirpaw of Peshwah, who returned with it, while His Father was Recruiting His Army. Vamon Row and Anant Row Rastiah, have Joined Him with some Forces; but by what I can learn, they are by no means Reconciled to the Revolution. Moodajee Bouncello with His Son, Janojees Wife, with the Forces under His Command, have also joined Ragobah,<sup>1</sup> tho' whether as a real

*Sabaji Bhonsle* Friend or a Concealed Enemy is Yet a Doubt. Sabajee has left His Brother, and gone off to Ruchnah Dowlah, being Disgusted, it's said, at Ragobahs having given the Sirpaw of Sine Siab Subah [*Sena Sahib Subah*] (which Naron Row had Presented Him with)<sup>2</sup> to Moodajee. The Morattah

*Maratha army* Army is now Encreased to upwards of 60,000 Men, and at present Bend their March towards Hyderabad to which Place Ragobah gives out He is going with an Intention to

1. See Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 705.

2. Appendix No. 19,

release the Nizam<sup>1</sup> out of the Hands of His Vizier, Ruchnah Dowlah. The Mogul Army, Headed by the Nizams Son and Vizier, consists of about forty thousand; but by all Accounts they do not oppose the March of the Morattahs; some say Ruchnah Dowlah wishes to accommodate matters, and has made Offers for that Purpose, which Ragobah has refused. This has Induced Ruchnah Dowlah to leave the Army and go to the Nizam in hopes of Pacifying Him. It is therefore impossible to say How the Affair will end, or whether Ragobahs Forces are Attached to Him, till the two Armies meet, or He gets to Hyderabad. But from your Honor &cas Vicinity to that Place I fancy You have much earlier Intelligence from thence respecting their motions than I can possible send You. I am privately informed Ragobah, on being told of the Reduction of Tanjore, Expressed some Resentment at it, which added to what He wrote Heyder and Morah Row Gorparah<sup>2</sup> before He knew it, gives Reason to think, if He can settle matters with the Nizam and get firmly fixed in His Government, He may strive to Retaliate on the Carnatick. Tho' Ragobah's Army, as above mentioned, is very numerous, yet I am told His Treasury is so low that even a Part is allowed Provisions, the rest procure it as they can, on a Promise of being reimbursed on their return Hither. This, added to His General Distrust of all the Principal Men about Him, and his not having appointed a Duan, make many People even at this time Doubtfull of His Success. I have at Present nothing further to acquaint you with, but that I shall Constantly keep Your Honor &ca Advised of everything I can Discover

*The  
Nizam's  
army*

*Doubtful  
issue*

*Raghoba  
and the  
Carnatic*

*Scarcity  
of money*

*Success  
doubtful*

1. "Rugonath resolved in the first instance to oppose Nizam Ally." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 705)

2. Morari Rao Ghorpade, (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 668)

which may interfere with Your Presidency, and Assure You.

I am with great Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Poonah, 19th Nov. 1773. Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

*N. Farnavis* **Sunday 21st.** This afternoon Nanna Furneese came to Town, and, I am told, has had his Post of Furneese taken from Him. By Letters received this Evening Sabajee Bouncello is Advanced as far as Amber, within five Days March of Poonah, and Trimbuck Row Mamma following Him.

*Battle with Nizam* **Monday 22nd.** Letters were received here to Day from the Nizams Camp in Eight Days, by which I learn the two armies were within Twenty Coase of each other, and that a Battle was daily Expected, and also that the Nizams Army Consists of about 25,000 Horse and 14,000 Foot. It is thought Sabajee waits at Amber till He hears the Morrattahs and Mogul have actually Engaged, when He means to Endeavour to Plunder Poonah ; of this the Town is very apprehensive ; for Yesterday and to day even the Merchants and Shopkeepers are sending away their Goods ; and indeed there is not now a Family of any Consequence in Poonah, except Nanna and Morabah Furneesees ; and they mean, I am told, to set out soon.

*Raising a loan* This, afternoon recd. a Letter under the 10th Instant from the Hon'ble the President, Directing me to Borrow on Account of the Hon'ble Company three or four Lacks of Rupees. I am extremely sorry this Order did not arrive a Month ago, as I might then have succeeded ; but I am now Doubtfull of it, as I do not imagine that Sum can be raised in Specie in the whole Place ; for, as I before Observed, every Person has been for these two Months past sending away their Money as opportunities Offered, and within this

week past even their Household Furniture and Copperware has been removed. However I shall use my best Endeavours to Comply with the Presidents Direction, and for that Purpose have already sent to Ballajee Naique Beriah, the most Principal Merchant in Poona.

**Wednesday 24th.** Addressed the Hon'ble the President and Council at Bombay, advising them of all material Occurrences since my Last. *Letter to Bombay*

To

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, Esqr.

President & Governor &ca Council of

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I last wrote Your Honour the 25th Ultimo, since which nothing very Material has happened. Moodajee and Ragobah still Continue together ; and as Vamon Row and Anant Row Rastiah have Joined them (tho' Yet, by what I can learn, by no means reconciled to the Revolution), The Morattah Army in all amounts to about 60,000 Men. Ragobah has taken the Fort of Nuldroog and plundered the Town of Beer, which belong to the Moguls, and Bends His March towards Hyderabad, giving out His Intentions are to release the Nizam out of the Hands of His Vizier, Ruchnah Dowlah. The Moguls with Sabajee Bouncellos Forces Consist of about 40,000 Men. But have not Yet seemingly opposed the Progress of the Morattahs, on the Contrary Ruchnah Dowlah has made Offers for Peace. But it's impossible to say whether they will be accepted of, or how it will end, till Ragobah meets the Nizam. They are now about 20 Coase from each other, the Former at Balkey, and the latter at Beeder. Ragobah has Dispatched Trimbuck Row Mamma with about 15,000 Horse to watch the motions of Sabajee Bouncello, who by some means has slipe Him, and has come within five Days March of

Poonah, which has Frightened the Principal Merchants and Bramins here to such a Degree that most of the latter have run away, and the Former have sent away everything they have that's Valuable ; however it's thought by the most Conversant in Affairs that He will not attempt coming to Poonah, till He hears of the meeting of the Moguls and Morattahs ; and if an Engagement ensues, He will then Endeavour to Plunder this Place. Ragobah by All Accounts is still greatly Distressed for Cash, and is only able to Allow a Part of His Army Provisions, the rest get it as they can, on a promise of being repaid. He Transacts all Business Himself, and no Duan is Yet appointed ; nor Does He place a Confidence in any one, but Distrusts Indiscriminately all the old Ministers, many of whom have left Him, and the Remainder are leaving Him daily. Sacaram Bapoo, Nanna Furneese and Ramajee Chitnees have obtained leave to retire on Divers pretences.<sup>1</sup> In this manner all the Principal men are withdrawing from Camp, as they find Ragobah only slights them, and will not Consult them on any Occasion whatever. Tho' the Conquest of Tanjore happened so long ago, Ragobah only heard of it the latter end of last Month. I am told He expressed some Resentment at it, of which with the foregoing Circumstances I informed the Gentlemen at Fort St. George. Letters, received last night in eight Days from the Morattah Camp, mention that it was in general Believed a Battle would soon happen, particularly as it was then reported the Nizam has been Joined by His Brother Bursallat Jung.

Poonah, 24th Nov. 1773.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,  
Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

1. Would it be rash to suggest that these departures can be best accounted for by the Barbhai Plot ?

This Day, also addressed the Hon'ble the President to acquaint Him that, notwithstanding of my having made use of my Utmost Endeavours to procure the Sums He Directed me to Borrow on Account of the Hon'ble Company, I have not, for the reasons set forth in the Minute under the 22nd, been able to get any part thereof. For the Merchants and Shroffs are now too much possessed with fear to think of Money Transactions; most of them have sent away their Families, and some have left Poonah altogether, and indeed I do not believe the Town is now above a third inhabited. *Failure of loan*

This afternoon received a Letter from the Select Committee at Fort William, and am not at all surprized at their receiving the news of the late Revolution so early by the way of Madrass, as my Advices reached that Presidency in Twenty Days, from whence it would get to Calcutta by Shipping at that time of the Year in a very little time; whereas my Letter of the 9th September to Fort William could not get thither in less than forty or fifty Days. *Letter from Calcutta*

To

MR. THOMAS MOSTYN,  
Resident at POONAH.

Sir,

As the Companys Interest on this Side India is so particularly interested in the Transactions of the Morattah State, the Council formerly wrote to You, desiring You to Communicate to Us from time to time such Intelligence as you might Judge of Importance; and a Duplicate of their Letter accompanies this. *Reminder*

We have learnt from report that the Morattah Government is torn by Dissensions; and a Letter from the Presidency of Fort St. George mentions that Naron Row has been put to Death by His Uncle Ragonath Row, who has Usurped the Government; as We have not received any *Complaint*



*Request for news* Information of these Events from You, we are Inclined to think that they are either Groundless, or not likely to be Attended with important Consequences. It would however be a particular Satisfaction to us to receive Certain Information of the Present Situation and Views of the Morattahs, and that You would Continue Your Intelligence by Monthly Dispatches or Oftener, should there be Occasion ; to know that no Events of Moment have happened will be of Service to us in arranging Our general Measures.

*Hindu-* The President has lately Concluded with the Vizier<sup>1</sup> a  
*stan* Treaty, by which the Chucklas<sup>2</sup> of Corah and Iliabad, which the King had granted by Sunnods<sup>3</sup> to the Morattahs, and withheld from them by Our Forces, have been ceded to the Vizier. As the Morattahs have an Ancient Claim<sup>4</sup> to the Chuckla of Corah, we should be glad to be informed whether they have thoughts of taking any Measures for the Possession of this District, or whether there is a probability that their Armies will this Year return for any Purpose to Hindustan. It may be necessary on some Occasions to Correspond in Cypher ; and as we doubt not You are furnished with one from Bombay, You will please to Convey Your Advices in that manner when necessary.

Fort William, 13th October, 1773.

We are,

Sir,

Your most Obedt Servants,

WARREN HASTINGS  
ROBERT BARKER

WILLIAM ALDERSEY  
P. M. DACRES.

1. Shuja-ud-daula.
2. Chucklah, a territorial division, a district, the district of Kora and Allahabad.
3. Sunnud : a diploma, patent or deed of grant by the Government of an office, privilege or right. (Hobson-Jobson)
4. Appendix No. 34.

**Friday 26th.** Nanna Furneese with His and Morabahs *N. Far-*  
 Family left Town, and intend going, as he told me on my *navis*  
 Visit to Him, to Manoley in the District of Wayme on the  
 Banks of the Crisnah. Mahomed Ally Caun Hackim<sup>1</sup> is *Mahomed*  
 also gone with His Family into the Conkon; thus every one *Ali Khan*  
 of Consequence has left Poonah, as also the Families of all  
 the great People in Camp. This Conduct of the Ministers and *Raghoba*  
 every one of Importance leads me to think<sup>2</sup> something more *distrusted*  
 than the Dread of Sabajee Bouncello induces them to Act in  
 this Manner, and that Schemes are forming against Rago-  
 bah; and I am the more Confident in this belief from the  
 Behaviour of Trimbuck Row Mamma, who, notwithstand-  
 ing He has the Command of a large Army and is in pur-  
 suit of Sabajee, nay has wrote hither they need not be in  
 any fear of the Bouncellos coming, yet He has Ordered  
 His Family and all His Effects out of the Place.

**Saturday 27th.** This afternoon the two Hircarrahs *Nizam*  
 I sent to Hyderabad returned, and informed me the Nizam *and*  
 is Encamped with near Fifty Thousand Horse and Foot *Raghoba*  
 about Eight Coase to the Southward of Beeder [*Bidar*],  
 where His Brother, Bursallat Jung, was soon Expected to  
 join Him; Ragobah with His Forces, when the Hircarrahs  
 came away, was a little this side Beeder. Vackeels had  
 passed to and from the different Camps, and Peace or a  
 Battle was daily Expected.

**Monday 29th.** Addressed the Select Committee at *Letter to*  
 Fort William in Answer to their Commands received the *Calcutta*  
 25th Inst, Advising them of everything Essential for them  
 to be Acquainted with.

1. The Poona resident; see Appendix No. 10.

2. This was not a wild surmise, as is made evident by the  
 subsequent attempt made to dispossess Raghoba of the Peshwaship  
 on the occasion of the Barbhai Plot.

To

The HON'BLE WARREN HASTINGS, Esqr.

President and Governor &ca Members of the

Select Committee at FORT WILLIAM.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*Reference to letters* I last wrote your Honor &ca the 9th September, Duplicate of which is Enclosed ; and your Favour of the 13th Ulto reached me the 25th Instant. Had ought Occurred since my last, which in any shape could have Effectuated [affected] your Presidency, or even any thing very material happened here, I should not have failed to have Communicated it to your Honor &ca. However in future, agreeable to your desire, I shall Constantly Advise you monthly (or *Raghoba* oftener if necessary) of the Situation of Affairs here. Ragobah (or Ragunath Row), having drawn a small Army together, Marched from hence the latter End of September ; and while he was Recruiting it, sent His Adopted Son, Amrut Row, to Setterah for the Sirpaw, who soon after returned with it, and Invested his Father, in the name of the Rajah, with the usual Title of Peshwah and the same Powers as Enjoyed by His Predecessors.

*Raghoba's army* On the Accession of Ragobah He sent the Sirpaw of Sinah Siab Subah (which had been given by Naron Row to Sabajee Bouncello) to Moodajee, who has since Joined Him with Janojees Wife, Ragojee and the Forces under their Command ; which has increased the Morattah Army to 60,000 Horse. Since this Junction Ragobah has taken the Fort of Nuldroog, and Plundered the Town of Beer, which belongs to the Moguls, and is now Advanced within a few Coase of Beeder, giving out He intends Releasing the Nizam out of the Hands of His Vizier, Ruchnah Dowlah.

*The Nizam's army* The Mogul Army with Sabajee Bouncelloes Forces at Present Amount to about 40,000, and are headed by the Nizam and His Vizier ; by the last Accounts they were

Encamped about Six Coase on the other side Beeder. They have not as yet opposed the Morattahs, but on the Contrary Ruchnah Dowlah has made Offers for Peace ; but it's thought by most to be only a Finesse of the Viziers to gain time, particularly as the Nizam has wrote His Brother, Bursallat Jung, to Come to His Assistance, and also Ordered all His Officers to Join Him ; this renders it impossible for me to say with the least Certainty how the Affairs will End, or whether Ragobahs Forces are Attached to Him, till the two Armies meet, the news of which is Daily Expected.

From all I can learn, Money is so Scarce in the Morattah Camp, that only a part of the Troops are allowed Provisions, the rest get it as they can, on a promise of being repaid on their return to Poonah ; this, added to Ragobahs continuing to Distrust all the old Ministers, with their withdrawing from Him and his not having yet appointed a Duan make many People even at this time doubtful of His Success. *Scarcity of money*

Your Honour &ca may perceive from the foregoing it is almost impossible for Ragobah to send any Forces into Hindostan, till He has settled matters with the Nizam ; when it is probable Heyder Ally will give Him some Trouble, as He is much in Arrears of the Tribute agreed on in His last Treaty with this Government, and at present does not seem to have any Inclination to Comply with it ; from these Circumstances with the low state of the Treasury there is little reason to think the Durbar will this Season be able to send any Considerable part of the Army out of the Deccan. *No army to Hindustan*

Vissajee Punt Benewalah, having Disbanded His Army at Brampore [*Burhanpur*], arrived from Hindostan soon after the Revolution ; but tho' Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker have been again Ordered hither, neither of them have made their appearance, nor have they yet made any Motions as if they meant to Obey the *Maratha generals*

*Jats* Summons. By the last Advices from Dhilly, it is said the  
*defeated* King had a considerable Army on Foot, with which he had  
 beat the Jauts in several Engagements and got possession  
 of Augra<sup>1</sup>; but from Your Honor & cas Situation you must,  
 long before this will arrive, have received the Intelligence ;  
 therefore it will be needless for me to mention any Particu-  
 lars respecting that or any other news from that Quarter.

I am with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

Poonah, 29th November, 1773.

*Accounts* **Tuesday 30th.** The Factory Charges for this month  
 being closed are agreeable to the Following Extract.

Extract of Account Disbursements for the Month of  
 November 1773.

To Factory Charges	...	...	677-2-50
„ Provision money	...	...	165-,,-,,
„ Stable Charges	...	...	70-,,-,,
„ Ramjee Linguist advanced Him	...	...	20-,,-,,
„ Charges Extraordinary	...	...	68-,,-,,
„ Account Presents	...	...	120-,,-,,

Rupees ... 1,120-2-50

Poonah, 30th November, 1773.

Errors Excepted.

**December.**

*Jats* **Wednesday 1st.** Letters were this Day received  
*defeated* from Hindostan, which bring Accounts that the King has  
 beat the Jauts in another Engagement, and Confirms His  
 having taken Agra, and Drove the Morattahs entirely out  
 of the Entrebade<sup>2</sup> (or between the Jumnah and Gunga).

1. Agra, see Appendix No. 35.

2. The central and lower portions of the Doab from Etawah  
 to Allahabad are often termed Antarved, the meaning of which is said

**Thursday 2nd.** Advices were received from Camp of *Rumours* a Battle being Fought between the Morattahs and Moguls; *of battle* and no less than three Different accounts of it. First that Ragobah, having as He thought bought over the Killedar<sup>1</sup> of Beeder Fort, had Concerted measures with Him to let in at night a Body of Men; this the Killedar immediately acquainted Ruchnah Dowlah of; between whom it was agreed to let Ragobahs Men Advance within the Second Ditch, there being three to the Fort, when Ruchnah Dowlah would Attack them without, and the Killedar from within; this was accordingly done, and near three thousand Morattahs fell in Consequence; and the Fort, firing very hot at the same time on Ragobahs Camp, obliged Him to retreat Six Coase with the loss of two His largest Guns. Secondly that Ruchnah Dowlah, finding the Mogul Army in want of Ammunition, for the greater Dispatch and Security had gone Himself to Hyderabad for it; which Vaman Row, who Commands the Van of the Morattahs getting notice of, had Marched with an intention of Intercepting Him; but on coming up, finding Ruchnah Dowlah to [too] Strong, had Advised Ragobah, who immediately Advanced and an Engagement Ensued, and the Morattahs worsted. The Third (which seems to be the most Authentick, as it's Confirmed to me by two very Principle People) says that a Body of the Nizams Fort marched at midnight and Advanced to Ragobahs Tent, before they met with any Opposition; Vaman Row and Anant Row Rastiahs being the Troops in Front, opened to the Right and left to give them free Passage. I am told Ragobah Escaped with Difficulty, tho' not till He was Wounded; which, Added to an intermitant Fever and

to be either 'between the waters' or 'within the hearth.' (*Imp Gaz. of India*, XI, 564. See Appendix No. 35)

1. Killedar is the commandant of a fort or garrison.

some Ulcers he has in His knee, make many think Him in a Dangerous way.<sup>1</sup>

*Ragobah* I have long thought it impossible for Ragobah to go on with Success in the manner He has hitherto done; for it cannot be supposed the Old Ministers and Principal Officers, nay some of them the very persons who assisted in bringing Him into the Government, will put quietly up with the many Sights He has put on them, and see the whole Management of a State, they have so long Ruled, fall entirely into the Hands of a Parcel of Menial Servants; for in no other does Ragobah Place any Confidence; they therefore have in their own Defence been obliged to Form Schemes against Ragobah; and I am Confidently Assured most of the Ministers, with the Principal Officers, Nizam, and Sabajee Bouncello are in the League.<sup>2</sup> Indeed, did there want any Proof of this, I think the following Circumstances are Sufficient: The Ministers all withdrawing from Camp, (except two, who perhaps are left with a View the better to carry on their Intrigues) and retiring to different Forts of which they have the Command; The late Attempt made by the Nizams Foot, when Ragobahs Troops let them Advance unmolested to His very Tent; And Sabajee Bouncello having so long remained near Poonah without once Attempting to Plunder the Place seems as if it was only Contrived to Alarm the Town, the better to give Colour to the Ministers and Officers removing their Families and Effects without Suspicion. However from the whole It certainly is no improbable Conjecture to Imagine Ragobah cannot long Continue in the Government; and as

1. Appendix No. 36.

2. Mostyn is firmly convinced that a plot is being hatched against Raghoba. Subsequent events showed that he was not mistaken.

He is the last of the Male line of Badje Row, whenever, He is taken off, our Treaties with that Family become Void;<sup>1</sup> and tho' the Party against Him is very strong, Yet I am of opinion the moment they have no head, the Ministers themselves, who have long been at Variance, will fall out, and that the Nizam, Morattahs and Heyder Ally will all have seperate Views, which must throw the whole Country into Confusion ; and should this happen, it's is my Humble Opinion a more favourable *Bassein,* Opportunity cannot Offer for the Hon'ble Company to *Salsette,* accomplish their wishes by seizing those Places they have *Karanja* long been Desirous of ; for their [*there*] is not at present the least Probability of obtaining those Places in any other manner ; had Ragobah, before He left Poonah, been Doubtful of the Permanency of His Government, I suppose He would have made Offers for our Assistance, as every opening in my Power was given Him, except speaking in Direct Terms, at the several Visits I made Him ; but was He now Inclined to make Offers, the situation of His affairs are such, that it's Doubtful to me if He has it in His Power to give the Hon'ble Company those Advantages they have a right to Expect ; for His Orders, I verily believe, would not now be Obeyed ; and as from the Face of Affairs in General and the best Information I can procure, the foregoing *Letter to* is Ragobahs real Situation, I judge it an Indispensible Duty *Bombay* to Advise my Superiors thereof, that in case of such an Event, and they should think proper to take Advantage of it, They may have time to Concert Measures Accordingly.

**Friday 3rd.** Letters were this morning received, *Ismail K.* which bring Intelligence that Ismael Caun<sup>2</sup> (an Officer of

1. This view was afterwards adopted by the Bombay Government. See Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, II, 4.

2. A false rumour, see *Diary*, December, 21, 1773, towards the end of the letter.



*Sabaji* the Nizams) has taken Brampore [*Burhanpur*], and also  
*Bhonsle* mentions that Sabajee Bouncello is at Tonka<sup>1</sup> about forty  
 Coase off, which has so much terrified Poonah, that the few  
 who remain are now moving off as fast as possible; but  
 notwithstanding it's thought by those that are Conver-  
 sant in Affairs He does not mean to come this way, but  
 means to attempt the Reduction of Trimbuck Fort near  
 Nasick.

*Letter to* Conformable to yesterdays Minute, Addressed the  
*Bombay* Select Committee at Bombay as follows.

To

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBLY, Esqr.

President and Governor &ca Members of the  
 Select Committee at  
 BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

*Rumours* My last Respects under the 24th Ulto to the Board  
*of battle* acquainted You with the Situation of Affairs untill that  
 time, since when nothing material Occurred untill Yester-  
 day, when Advices were Received that there had been an  
 Engagement between Ragobah and the Nizam. Various  
 are the Accounts of it : some say Ragobah, having as He  
 imagined bought over to His interest the Killedar of Beeder  
 Fort, had Concerted measures with Him to let in a Body of  
 Men, which were to Advance in the Dead of night. This  
 the Killedar acquainted Ruchnah Dowlah of, and it was  
 Contrived between them to let Ragobahs People approach  
 within the Second Ditch (the Fort having three), when  
 Ruchnah Dowlah would Attack them without, and the  
 Killedar from within. This was accordingly done, and  
 many People were killed, it's said near three thousand.  
 The Fort at the same time firing very hot on Ragobahs

1. Tonka is situated on the Godavari, about 60 miles north-  
 east of Ahmadnagar.

Camp, which Obliged Him to Retreat near Six Coase with the loss of two of His largest Cannon. Others mention, and by what I can learn with more Truth, that the Nizams Forces marched at midnights and Surprized Ragobah, His Troops in Front leting them pass unmolested ; however it may be, Ragobah has certainly been beat, and Retired several Coase with a very Considerable loss of Men and some Cannon and, I am Credibly Informed, is Himself wounded. This Intelligence, with the Ministers and all the Principal *Poonah* Men withdrawing their Families and Effects from Poonah, *terrified* added to the Dread of Sabajee Bouncello, has so terrified the Town that every one Indiscriminately are leaving it as fast as possible, even the Governor Narrow Appah has removed all his Effects from Poonah ; and I am privately Informed Orders were last night received to remove all the Valuables out of Palace, and that the Jewellery is actually gone. There is not a Man of any Consequence left, except Narrow Appah, Vissajee Punt Benewallah (who Commands the few Troops about Town) and Anant Row Jeevajee; and they remain with only a few Servants.

From the foregoing Your Honor &ca may Conclude *Raghoba* Ragobahs Affairs in no favourable Situation ; and from *unpopular* what I can learn, His own Conduct has brought them into this Dilemma. Soon after his geting possession of the Government, He treated all the Old Ministers, even those who Assisted in bringing about the Revolution, with so much Diffidence and neglect, as I have reason to believe has Disgusted the whole ; and their Behaviour seems to strengthen my Suspicions ; nor can it be supposed they will silently put up with it, when they are Sensible they only can support Him ; nay it has been hinted to me Schemes are formed against Him, and the behaviour of His Troops in this late Instance Confirm it. From these Circumstances it is no improbable Conjecture to suppose Ragobahs Reign

will be but short ; for Exclusive of any Designs against Him, His health is in a very Declining State. Should he be taken off either way, Our Treaties with Badje Rows Family become Void, He being the only one of the Male Line left. I therefore submit it to Your Honor &cas Consideration, in case of such an Event, whether it would not be a good Opportunity for the Hon'ble Company to accomplish their wishes by seizing those Places they have long been desirous of ; a more favourable one in my Humble Opinion cannot offer ; for the whole Country will then undoubtedly be in the utmost Confusion, and many different Parties formed ; which will prevent any opposition being made to our Operations to any Effect at least untill they are put into Execution ; for it cannot be supposed the Bramins, Bouncello, Nizam and Heyder will unite in one system. At present there does not appear to me any prospect for the Hon'ble Company to succeed by any other means, Had Ragohah, before He left Poonah, been apprehensive of His Situation, I firmly believe He would have applied for Our Assistance ; for every opening in my Power (except speaking in Direct Terms) was given Him at each Visit I made Him, by Assuring Him in the strongest manner of Our Wishes to Assist Him ; now, was He even Inclined to do it, I fear the Hon'ble Company would not reap these Advantages from it they might Expect ; for it's Doubtful to me whether in His Present Circumstances His Orders would be Obeyed.

*Ism.* Letters received to day mention that Ismael Caun, an  
*Khan* Officer of the Nizam, has taken the Town of Brampore.  
*S. Bhonsle* Sabajee Bouncello is now near Tonka, about forty-five Coase from Poonah, and has for these twenty Days past been raising Contributions on all the Morattah Districts about Aurungabad, in which Place, it's said, He has lodged his Family ; a few think his Views are towards Trimbuck

Fort near Nassick from His having delayed coming here so long, by which He has given time for everything to be carried away. The last Advises from Dhilly bring Intelligence that the Kings Forces have beat the Jats in three successive Engagements, and had got possession of the Forts of Agra and Comeir<sup>1</sup>; and also mentioned that the Different Places between the Gunga and Jumnah, formerly belonging to the Morattahs, had been given up to Him, the Troops that Garrisoned them having joined His Standard.

Poonah, 3rd December, 1773.

I remain very Respectfully,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

**Saturday 4th.** This morning the Governor, Narrow Appah, has sent Josoods and Sepoys about the Town to prevent the Inhabitants going away, having received Letters from Trim buck Row Mamma, acquainting Him that there is now no Danger, as He can secure the Town, being on this Side Sabajee and but a few Coase from Tonka. *Poonah not in danger*

**Thursday 9th.** By Letters from Camp I learn Trim buck Row Mamma has applied to Ragobah for a reinforcement, finding Himself too weak to attack Sabajee, and in Consequence Narrow Sunker, Wittol Sewdew and Eswant Power have been Ordered to His Assistance; and Ragobah has Directed Mamma to Endeavour to settle Matters amicably with the Bouncello and Induce Him to Join against the Nizam; but if He persists in Plundering the Country, He then is to do His best to Destroy Him; Vissajee Punt Lelah was on the 27th Ultro, I find, Reinstated by Ragobah in the Seer Subadarry of the Conkon,<sup>2</sup> and His son, a Boy, ap- *Sabaji Bhonsle Visaji Pant*

1. Comere, situated north-west of Agra. Appendix No. 35.

2. See *Diary* December 3, 1773 and December 5, 1773.

*Holkar and Sindia* pointed Subedar of Basseen. Tookajee Holker and Madjee Scindy are again ordered to repair hither with all their Force ; whether they will Obey is very Doubtful, as they already have had many Orders from the Durbar to this Purpose, but have always evaded coming.

*Letter from Madras* **Friday 10th.** Received a Letter from the Select Committee at Madrass and will, agreeable to their Desire, use my best Endeavours to Inform them of the Truth of the Point they Recommend ; but as it will be necessary to write to Camp, which is now almost two Hundred Coase off, it will be some time before I shall be able to Comply with their Request.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, Esqr.

Sir,

*Reference to letters* Our last Letter was dated the 20th September, a Tri-  
*Request for news* plicate of which now waits on You. On the 30th September We received Your Letter of the 9th, and that of the 26th reached Us the 2nd Instant. We think Ourselves much Obligated to You for the Intelligence You have been pleased to Communciate to Us respecting Affairs at Poonah, and must repeat Our request that You will Constantly Advise Us of whatever material may Occur.

*The Dutch* The Dutch at Negapatam, having taken possession of Nagore<sup>1</sup> and some Districts Dependent on Tanjore, under Pretence that they had been sold to them by the Rajah, The Nabob applied to Us for the Assistance of the Com-

1. Nagore is a village within the municipal limits of Negapatam. Negapatam was captured by the Dutch in 1660, and was the chief of their Indian possessions till 1781. Meanwhile Nagore had been sold to the Dutch by the Raja of Tanjore in 1773, but was soon afterwards wrested from them by the Nawab of the Carnatic with the aid of the English. It was afterwards restored to the Raja, who made a grant of it to the Company in 1776. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XIX, 3)

pany's Troops to Enable Him to Dispossess them. Our Troops accordingly proceeded towards Nagore, and those belonging to the Nabob having Advanced to that Place, the Dutch abandoned [*abandoned*] the Districts in Dispute on their arrival, and before Our Troops came in sight. The Nabob is now, however, endeavouring to accommodate matters with them. We are well Assured that, before and during the Expedition against Tanjore, the King received from the Dutch supplies of Stores and Ammunition, &c; it is said the Dutch have even sent an Embassy to the Morattahs in Order to Obtain their Aid in support of the King of Tanjore. We cannot say how far this Report may be true, altho' we think it not improbable, as they have greatly Increased their Force at Negapatam. We therefore request you will use your best Endeavours to come at the Truth thereof and Advise Us of the Result; since, if be so, it will be necessary for Us to be the more watchfull of their Views and Designs which may tend to the obtaining an Influence in this Part of India very incompatible with the Interests of Our Hon'ble Employers.

Fort St. George, 4th November, 1773.

We are with Esteem,

Sir,

Your most Obedt, Humble Servts,

ALEXAN. WYNCH

I. M. STONE.

**Saturday 11th.** Dispatched Letters to Camp to *Letters to* gain the Intelligence desired by the Gentlemen at Fort St. *camp* George.

Reports in Town mention that Ragobah and the Nizam *The* are treating of Peace; but I think it's too soon after the *Nizam* advantage gained by the Moguls over the Morattahs to be true.

It is also said that Sabajee is now retired towards *Sabaji* Aurungabad, and Trimbuck Row Mamma after Him, but *Bhonsle*

Encamped with Dolatabad in His rear, that He may be able to take shelter under the Guns of that Fort in Case of being over Powered by the Bouncello.

*Rumours of peace* **Wednesday 15th.** Narrow Appah, the Governor, this morning sent for many Merchants and others, and acquainted them He had received Letters by which He learnt Peace was Concluded between Ragobah and the Nizam the 9th instant, and that, when these Dispatches came away, it was Expected Ragobah would Decamp from Beeder in a few Days. But as this is the Reverse of all the Intelligence that has been lately Received,<sup>1</sup> and as no Merchants or Shroffs have received any Letters, I am doubtfull of the Truth of it; therefore shall defer Advising my *A private letter* Superiors, untill it's better Authenticated. However wrote the President Privately to acquaint Him with it, and at the same time Addressed the Board, Enclosing them the factory Disbursements for August, September and October last.

To,

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, Esqr.

President and Governor &ca Council

on BOMBAY.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

*Accounts* I last Addressed your Honour &ca the 24th Ultimo, and this is solely to give Cover to my Account Disbursements for August, September and October, for the Amount of which (being Rupees, 5643-1-15) I have Drawn a Bill of Exchange on You in favour of Ramjee Ragowjee, which I request You will please to Honor.

The amount Disbursements for these three months are Considerably increased, owing entirely to the Presents to Ragobah and His Son, which were as little as I could

1. This shows to what an extent Mostyn was taken in by the false rumours of Raghoba's defeat. These rumours were obviously spread by Raghoba's enemies who left no stone unturned to ruin him.

with Propriety give, particularly as I had never been permitted Publickly to pay my Respects to them; therefore flatter myself it will meet with Your Honor &cas  
 Approbation.

I am with Respect,  
 HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
 Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

Poonah, 15th December, 1773.

**Saturday 18th.** At noon received a Letter from the *Letter*  
 Hon'ble the President, Directing me to send everything I *from*  
 have of Value to Bombay;<sup>1</sup> and that, if I had reason to *Bombay*  
 apprehend any Danger in staying in Poonah, I might at  
 any time remove fifteen or twenty Coase towards Bombay;  
 and also, if I found Affairs entirely going against Ragobah,  
 to Advise Him or the Committee Instantly; but at all  
 events to write Him every five days by Pattamars, as the  
 Sepoys are not sufficiently Expeditious. I shall pay the  
 strictest Attention to all His Orders, excepting that regard-  
 ing my sending my things to Bombay, as I think it  
 prudent<sup>2</sup> to wait with respect to this, till the news of the  
 Peace is either Confirmed or Contradicted.

**Sunday 19th.** Received Letters from Camp, by which *Peace*  
 I learn a Peace is actually Concluded between the Moguls *conclu-*  
 and Morattahs. That on the eighth, after some Letters *ded*  
 had passed, Ruchnah Dowlah came to Ragobahs Camp,  
 when Ragobah Demanded of Him twenty Lack of Jaghier  
 and two or three Forts, which He, in His Masters name,  
 Consented to give. The next Day the Nizam came, and  
 met Ragobah in a Tent, Pitched for that Purpose between

1. Mostyn had evidently succeeded in making the Bombay Government share his apprehensions as regards the hopelessness of of Raghoba's cause and his supposed defeat.

2. The rumours of peace seem to have made a salutary impression on Mostyn.



the two armies, and after the usual Compliments accompanied the latter to the Morattah Camp, where they sat together in private a Considerable time ; after which a full Durbar was called, and in the Evening the Nizam returned to his Fort. The Nizam; it seems, at the above Visit pleaded Poverty, and that He was unable to perform what His Vizier had promised ; on which Ragobah, in Consideration of the long Friendship that had subsisted between the two States, and on Condition the Nizam would Assist Him on any Particular Emergency with a Stipulated number of Men, waved the whole Demand.<sup>1</sup> I am also informed an Express is arrived in Camp from Dhilly, which brings Intelligence of a very Desperate Battle having happened between the Kings Forces and the Jauts, in which the latter were entirely Defeated<sup>2</sup> with the loss of 14,000 Men and their whole Train of Artillery ; on the Kings side many fell, amongst the rest the greatest part of three of our Battalions from Calcutta ; Sujet Caun (Sujah Dowlahs Nephew) wounded, and both His Standard and Riding Elephants killed. But as I suppose this to be the Particulars of one of the Engagements I have already advised my Superiors of, do not think it necessary to acquaint them with it.

*Letter to* **Tuesday 21st.** Thinking it proper my Superiors  
*Bombay* should be Advised of the Peace which is Concluded between the Morattahs and Moguls, and the only probable Conjec-

1. Appendix No. 37.

2. Najaf Khan's first campaign against Nawal Singh and the Jats ended with the capture of Agra on December 11, 1773. But the capture of Agra was effected without fighting or bloodshed (Qanungo, *History of the Jats*, I, 269, 270). Hence the Jat defeat here mentioned may refer to the battle of Barsana in November 1773. But it would seem that the losses on either side are grossly exaggerated in Mostyn's *Diary*. See Appendix No. 35, and Qanungo, *History of the Jats*, I, 247-270.

ture I can form why the Nizam, after the Advantage gained Over Ragobah,<sup>1</sup> should so soon agree to the mortifying Terms above mentioned, I accordingly Addressed them the following Letter.

To

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Members of the Select  
Committee on BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

I last did myself the Pleasure to Address You Honor *Peace*  
&ca., the 3rd Instant; and notwithstanding the Advantage *concluded*  
gained by the Moguls over the Morattahs, as mentioned therein, I have received the Letters from Camp, which Confirm the Reports, that for several Days have been in Town, of a Treaties being Concluded between Ragobah and the Nizam the 9th Instant. That Day (from the best Information) after everything had been settled before by Messages and Vackeels, the latter met the Former under a Tent pitched between the Two Camps, and after the usual Compliments the Nizam accompanied Ragobah to His own Tent. It is said Ragobah at first Demanded Twenty Lack of Jaghier and two or three Forts of the Moguls, which they agreed to give; but afterwards He gave it up, in Consideration of their Old Friendship and the Nizams Consenting to assist Him with a certain number of Troops on any particular emergency.

After the Advantage the Nizam gained over Ragobah, *Mostyn's*  
Your Honor &ca will undoubtedly be surprized at His *views*  
Entering so soon into Engagements, by which, from what I can learn, He has neither gained Honor or Credit; nor can

1. Mostyn is still under the impression that Raghoba was defeated by the Nizam. Strange to say, W. Taylor, writing to Warren Hastings on the 9th October, 1775, is under the same impression. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 252)

I account for it in any other manner, than that the Moguls must be divided amongst themselves;<sup>1</sup> and there is great Reason to believe this to be the case, for Ibrahim Caun Downsaw (tho' one of the most Considerable Officers the Nizam Has) during the whole Dispute has never joined His Master.

*Future plans* Reports are so various respecting Ragobahs future Intentions, that it's altogether out of my Power to inform You what they may be; some say after He has accommodated matters between the Bouncellos, He means to return to Poonah; others that He intends Marching to the Banks of the Cristnah in order to Compel Heyder by fair means or by Force to pay Him the Arrears of Tribute due to Him; this seems to be the most likely, as by the last Letter He is at Culbargah [*Gulbarga*], about thirty Coase from Beedar *Sabaji* [*Bidar*] on the road thither. Sabajee Bouncello has since *Bhonsle* my last retired several Coase on the other side of Aurungabad, and Trimbuck Row Mamma within a few Coase of Him, which, added to the Peace Concluded with the Nizam, has altogether quieted the fears of the People of Poonah.

*Visaji Pant* I am Credibly informed Vissajee Punt Lelah<sup>2</sup> is Reinstated in the Seer Subadarry of the Conkon, and His Son, a Boy, appointed Subedar of Basseen.

*Letter from Madras* Enclosed I send Your Honor &ca Copy of a Letter received from the Select Committee at Fort St. George, by which You will please perceive they desire me to acquaint them if an Ambassador has been at this Durbar from the Dutch to Solicit Succours for the King of Tanjore; but as I cannot say whether or no one has been with Ragobah since He left Poonah, I immediately Dispatched, on the

1. Grant Duff's explanation proves more satisfactory. (See Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 706-707)

2. See *Diary*, December 9, 1773.

receipt of it Pattamars to Camp with letters to gain Intelligence; and when they return, will instantly give them the Information they request. Notwithstanding *Idle* several Letters mentioned what I wrote you, respecting *rumour* Ismael Cauns having taken Brampore [*Burhanpur*], I since find it is not true, and that He has only raised Contributions on that City and Districts.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
Your most Obedt Servt.

Poonah, 21st December, 1773.

**Sunday 26th.** This Evening the Pattamars returned, *No Dutch* which I send to Camp the 11th with Advices to gain Intel- *envoy* ligence if the Dutch at Negapatam had sent a Vackeel or wrote to Ragobah for assistance against Mahomed Ally Caun<sup>1</sup>; and by the Letters they bring I am informed no person has been at Camp from them; nor is there the least Report of any ones coming; and that, if they have wrote, it must be very Privately, as no Letters can be Discovered to have been received from them. But I find one Chandera-bahanjee, a Cousin of the Tanjore Rajahs, who escaped *The King* from Tanjore during the Siege, Is now with Morah Row *of Tanjore* Gorparah<sup>2</sup>; and also that a Vackeel, which the Rajah Dispatched hither with Presents, before Tanjore was attacked, is lately arrived in the Morattah Camp.

By the above Letters Crust Row Balal Is still at *Peace* Beeder on account of the Morattahs, Adjusting some *terms* Articles with the Nizam.

Ragobah is advanced to Culburgah [*Gulbarga*], where *Raghoba,* He is Endeavouring to settle matters with Heyders Vackeel, *Haidar* and has wrote Mahomed Ally Caun to join Him with a *and the* Stipulated number of Troops against Heyder, agreeable to *Nawab*

1. The Nawab of the Carnatic.

2. Morari Rao Ghorpade.

Treaty, or send Him the Arrears of Chout<sup>1</sup> (or Seer Desmookey<sup>2</sup>), and to return Tanjore to the Rajah. He has also had the impudence to write to the same Purport to Heyder that He must Assist Him against Mahomed Ally Caun, or pay Him the arrears of Tribute ; but I can scarce suppose either of them will Comply with Ragobahs Request ; on the Contrary it may be the Cause of their Uniting against their Common Enemy. However, If Ragobah can any way accommodate matters with Heyder, He certainly is Enclined to go Himself or Dispatch Troops into the Carnatick.

*The* Ragojee Bouncello and Deriabay<sup>3</sup> have taken leave,  
*Bhonsles* and soon mean to return with their Troops to Berar.  
*Moroba* Morabah Furneese has also got leave to come to Poonah,  
*Govind* and Govind Row Giquanah<sup>4</sup> has been invested by Ragobah  
*Rao* with the Sirpaw of Sinah Cozgy and a Sunnud for the  
 Guzarat Subahship, instead of His Brother, Futtysing. But  
 when He will leave Camp, or what Troops He will have to  
 support Him is Yet uncertain.

*Letters* Having Obtained the necessary Information, Addressed the Select Committee at Fort St. George Immediately, and purpose writing my Superiors at Bombay tomorrow.

1. Chauth, meaning the one-fourth part, is unfeelingly described as the blackmail levied by the Marathas from the provincial governors as compensation for leaving their districts in immunity from plunder. (Hobson-Jobson)

2. Sardeshmukhi means a levy ten per cent. beyond the Chauth by which the surdeshmukh was maintained in the time of the Maratha Government. (Whiteworth)

3. "Moodaji remained with the Peishwa, but Rugoojee and Durya Bye returned towards Berar." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 705)

4. Appendix No. 4 and *Gaz. Bom. Pres.* II, I, 401.

To,

The HON'BLE ALEXANDER WYNCH, Esqr.  
 President and Governor &ca Members of the  
 Select Committee  
 at FORT ST. GEORGE.

*Letter to  
 Madras*

HON'BLE SIR &amp; SIRs,

My last Address waited on Your Honor &ca the 19th *Reference*  
 Ulto, Duplicate of which is Enclosed ; and I was Favoured *to letters*  
 with your Letter of the 4th of November the 10th Instant. *No Dutch*  
 It was impossible for me immediately to Comply with Your *envoy*  
 request respecting the Report of the Dutch having sent an  
 Ambassador hither to solicit Succours for the King of  
 Tanjore, as I was under the necessity of Dispatching Let-  
 ters to Camp for Intelligence ; for, tho' I was certain no  
 person had been here either Publickly or Privately in that  
 Character, before Ragobah left Poonah, Yet I could not  
 pretend to say whether or no they might not have sent an  
 Embassy to Camp. However this morning I received Ans-  
 wers from the Army to the Letters I sent away on the  
 receipt of your Commands, by which I learn no person has  
 been there from the Dutch, nor is there the least talk of  
 any ones coming. But that a Vackeel, which the Rajah of  
 Tanjore sent to Ragobah before or during the Siege, is *The King*  
 arrived with Presents ; and that Chanderabahanjee, a *of Tanjore*  
 Brother of the Rajah, who escaped while the Nabob was  
 carrying on the Attack of that Place, is now with Morah  
 Row Gorparah.

Conformable to my last, Ragobah Continued His *Peace*  
 March, till He came within a few Coase of Beeder, where *concluded*  
 the Moguls were Encamped. The two Armies remained  
 near each other several Days, during which, several Skir-  
 mishes happened, in most of which the Morattahs were  
 worsted.<sup>1</sup> Notwithstanding this, matters were accommoda-

1. Not Raghoba's, but the Nizam's troops came off second best.

ted between Ragobah and the Mogul the 9th Instant, when (after everything had been before settled by Ruchnah Dowlah) the Latter met the Former under a Tent Pitched between the Two Camps ; after the usual Compliments the Nizam accompanied Ragobah to His own Tent. By what I can learn, Ragobah at first Demanded of the Moguls twenty Lack of Jaghier and two or three Forts, which they even Consented to give ; but He afterwards gave it up, in Consideration of their long Friendship and the Nizams agreeing on any Emergency to Assist Him with a Stipulated number of Troops.

*Various rumours* I cannot with the least degree of Certainty inform Your Honor &ca of Ragobahs future Intentions. Reports are so various Respecting it ; some say as soon as He has Settled matters between Sabajee and Moodajee Bouncello, He means to return to Poonah ; others that He intends Marching to the Banks of the Cristnah, in order to Compel Heyder by fair means or by Force to Pay Him the Arrears of Tribute Due to Him ; and others again say He has some thoughts of going Himself or sending some Troops into the Carnatick, which is not altogether improbable from what I wrote You before ; and should the Dutch have wrote Ragobah for His Assistance, if He had any Ideas of that Kind before, it will undoubtedly be an Inducement to Him to put them the more readier into Execution.

Should not Ragobah return this way, it will not be in my Power to keep Your Honor &ca properly Advised of His Motions ; for from the present Situation of the Army You will have much quicker and better Intelligence than I can possibly send You at this Distance. However the best I can procure, I shall Continue to Communicate to You.

I am with Respect,  
 Poonah, 26th December, 1773. HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
 Your most Humble Servant.

**Monday 27th.** Wrote the Select Committee agreeable *Letter to*  
to Yesterdays Minute. *Bombay*  
To,

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, Esqr.

President and Governor &ca Members of the  
Select Committee at BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

My last Address waited on Your Honor &ca the 21st *Reference*  
Instant, since which nothing very material has Occurred. *to letter*

Yesterday the Pattamars, I Dispatched to Camp with *No Dutch*  
Letters to gain Intelligence respecting the Report of the *envoy*  
Dutch having sent an Ambassador to this Durbar, returned,  
and by the Answers they bring I find no such person has  
been there, nor is there the least news of any ones coming ;  
but that a Vackeel, which the Rajah of Tanjore sent to *The King*  
Ragobah either before of during the Siege, is lately arrived *of Tanjore*  
with Presents ; and I also learn that the Rajahs Brother,  
Chanderabahanjee, who escaped while the Nabob was carry-  
ing on the Attack, is now with Morah Row Gorparah ; of  
this I immediately informed the Select Committee at Fort St.  
George, and with every other occurrence that has lately  
taken Place. Tho' the Dutch have not sent an Embassy, *The*  
they may have privately wrote for Assistance, and indeed *Dutch*  
Ragobahs Behaviour gives some reason for this Supposition ; *Raghoba's*  
for I am Credibly acquainted He has wrote the Nabob of *plans*  
Arcot to Join Him against Heyder, or pay Him the Arrears  
of Chout, and also to return Tanjore to the Rajah ; and as  
I cannot suppose the Nabob will comply with the Latter, it  
is probable, if Ragobah can settle with Heyder, with whose  
Vackeel He is now Treating, He may send some Troops  
into the Carnatick.

Ragobah by the last Advices still remains at Culburgah *Raghoba*  
[Gulbarga], and tho' everything to outward appearance *and the*  
was settled between the Nizam and Him as long ago as the *Niza*



9th Instant, Yet He has never returned the Moguls Visit, and His Vackeel is still at Beedar ; which seems as if matters were not accommodated to mutual Satisfaction. If the Peace Concluded is on both sides Sincere, it may prevent for a time the Schemes (which I mentioned to Your Honour &ca, *Raghoba* under the 3rd Instant<sup>1</sup> had been hinted to me to be Forming *unpopular* against Ragobah) taking place, tho' it is not likely it will altogether frustrate them; for the old Ministers are certainly still very much Disgusted with Him, and Morabah Furneese, who was the only one of any Consequence remaining in Camp, has now left it ; and by some means Ragobah has been Induced lately to Dispatch from His Army on Different Services many of the Troops who were most Devoted to His Person. These Circumstances give Room to think there is something going forward to His Prejudice,<sup>2</sup> but whether His Enemies will Succeed, or how it will end is impossible to say. However your Honor &ca may rest Assured I shall use my best Endeavours to gain the most early and best Intelligence of anything that may be interesting to our Hon'ble Employers, and that I shall *Various* Constantly keep you Advised thereof. Some days ago *items* Ragobah Invested Govind Row Guicquah<sup>3</sup> with the Sirpaw of Sinah Cozgy, instead of His Brother, Futtysing ; but I am told Govind Row did not request, nor has Ragobah yet given or Promised Him any Troops to put Him in possession, tho' He has obtained leave to retire from Camp. I am also Informed that Ragojee, with the Title of Sinah

1. See letter of December 3, 1773, where Mostyn speaks of schemes being set on foot by Raghoba's enemies to deprive him of all power.

2. The Barbhai plotters were apparently very busy.

3. Govind Rao Gaikwar, Appendix No. 4.

Siab Subah, and Deriabay Intend leaving Camp and return to Berar, but Moodajee will remain with Ragobah.

Poonah, 27th December, 1773. I am with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your most Humble Servant.

**Thursday 28th.** Judging it necessary the Gentlemen *Letter to* at Fort William should be advised of the Situation of *Calcutta* Affairs, addressed them the following Letter.

To

THE HON'BLE WARREN HASTINGS, ESQR.

President & Governor Etc. Members of the Select  
Committee at Fort William.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

I last wrote your Honor &ca the 29th Ulto, Duplicate *Raghoba* of which is Enclosed ; agreeable thereto the Morattah and *and the* Moguls Armies Continued near each other several Days, *Nizam* during which some Skirmishes ensued, in which the former were generally worsted. Notwithstanding this, matters were accommodated, between Ragobah and the Nizam the 9th Instant, when the latter met the former under a Tent pitched between the two Camps, and afterwards accompanied Him to His own Tent.

It seems Ragobah at first Demanded of the Mogul Twenty Lack of Jaghier and two or three Forts, and they Consented to give ; but afterwards this Demand was given up in Consideration of their long Friendship and the Nizams agreeing to Assist Him on any Emergency with a Stipulated number of Troops. Thus the Dispute is settled for the Present ; but whether the Peace is sincere on both sides is a Doubt ; for Ragobah has evaded returning the Nizams Visit, and some Points seem still not to be Adjusted to mutual Satisfaction, as a Morattah Vackeel is Yet Negotiating at the Mogul Camp. Ragobah was by the latest *Raghoba's* Advices at Culburga [*Gulbarga*], 30 Coase to the Westward *plans*

of Beedar [*Bidar*], where He is Treating with Heyders Vackeel, and talks of sending an Army of about 20,000 Horse towards the Carnatick ; but whether to Intimidate Heyder, or Endeavour to Induce Mahomed Ally Caun to pay Him the Arrears of Government is uncertain. It's said He means to Dispatch Ragojee Bouncello (Moodajees Son), with the Title of Sinah Siab Subah, and Janojees Widow to Berar, and afterwards return to Poonah ; which should He do, It is not impossible but He may send some Troops Into Hindostan. I shall make it my study to Discover if these are His Intentions ; and when I can gain any information regarding it, will Instantly acquaint you therewith. Tho' the Present Face of Affairs appear Favourable for Ragobah, Yet the same Distrust and misunderstanding Continues between Him and the Old Ministers as I before Advised Your Honor &ca ; nor has He appointed a Duan, but carries on every thing Himself ; which makes many Continue still to think His Government is far from being Firmly Established.

*Raghoba*  
*unpopular*

I am with great Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

*Accounts*

**Thursday 31st.** The Factory Disbursements for this month being Closed are agreeable to the following Extract.

Extract of the Disbursements of the Factory at Poonah for the month of December 1773.

To Factory Charges	...	...	691-1-50
„ Provision money	...	...	170-2-,,
„ Stable Charges	...	...	68-,,-,,
„ Ramjee Linguist Advanced Him	...	...	75-,,-,,
„ Charges Extraordinary	...	...	230-3-75

Rupees ... 1,235-3-25

Poonah, 31st December, 1773.

Errors Excepted.

The End of the Year 1773.

Diary of the Proceedings of Thomas Mostyn, Esq.  
Resident at the Morattah Durbar, commencing the  
1st January 1774.<sup>1</sup>

January.

**Sunday 2nd.** Having got notice that Govind Row *Govind*  
Gaikwar was arrived at His House at Dewry, sent a Man *Rao*  
to gain certain intelligence and learn, if possible, what *Gaikwar*  
Force He has.

**Monday 3rd.** This morning the Person Dispatched to  
Dewry returned. Govind Row is there and intends setting  
out as to day for Guzarat. He has about 500 Horse with  
Him and is raising more, but much distressed for Cash.  
He<sup>2</sup> learns that Ragobah has Assisted Him with some Guns,  
and Ordered Trimbuck Row Mamma to supply Him with  
2,000 Men ; has also given Him Recommendatory Letters  
to the English. From others I learned Govind Rows  
Officer, Thoband, is marching along the Banks of the  
Gunga<sup>3</sup> towards Narsick, and His Effort is Intended against  
Soon Gurr.

It being necessary the Gentlemen at Broach should be *Letter to*  
acquainted with the above, wrote the following Letter to *Broach*  
the Chief and Factors there.

1. With the opening of the year 1774, the title of the *Diary* is repeated and the pagination starts a new from page 1, in a new file.
2. Mostyn's messenger.
3. The Godavari, or Ganga as it is locally called, is the most celebrated river in the District of Nasik. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XVI, 7)

To,

WILLIAM SHAW, Esq.

Chief &amp;ca Factors at

BROACH.

Gentlemen,

*Govind* This is purposely to acquaint you of Ragobahs having  
*Rao* lately Invested Govind Row Gaikwar with the Sirpaw of  
*Gaikwar* Sinah Cozgy<sup>1</sup> and the Subahship of Guzarat, instead of  
 His Brother, Futtysing; and I hear has also given Him  
 Letters to the English, and Supplied Him with about 2,000  
 Men and some Guns.

Govind Row is now at Dewry, ten Coase from Poonah,  
 from whence He means to set out this Day towards Guza-  
 rat. His Troops are in all about three thousand and, I am  
 told, Marching along the Banks of the Gunga under His  
 Officer Thobandjee; which they will be able to do but  
 slowly owing to the Want of Cash.

*Fateh* It is Reported that Fattysing has stoped the Pass of  
*Singh* the Gotts, leading to Soongur Fort,<sup>2</sup> which, if true, will  
 give Govind Row some trouble; and it's said he Means to  
 make His first Attempt against that Place.

I am with Esteem,

Poonah, 3rd January, 1774.

Gentlemen,

Your most Obdt, Humble Servt.

1. "Towards the end of 1773 Raghunathrav, while at Kalburga [*Gulbarga*] planning an invasion of the Karnatik and as yet undisputed Peshwa, for the child (the posthumous son of Narayan Rao) was not born, reversed the decision made in favour of Sayajirav and recognised his old ally, Govindrav, as Sena Khas Khel." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 191)

2. "Govindrav had attended on Raghunathrav in person to obtain from him this support of his claims; but he now returned to Gujarat with fresh hopes of ejecting Fatesing; and there is a letter existing in which he describes to the Peshwa his capture of Songarh." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 191) Songarh is situated on the Tapti Valley

**Saturday 8th.** Had a Visit from Narron Shāmjee *Raghoba's*  
Chitnees ; after the usual Compliments I asked Him when *return*  
He imagined Ragobah would return to Poonah. He says  
Narrow Appah privately acquainted Him He would not  
return before the end of Chiter or beginning of Visach,  
answering to our May, as He intended to Cross the Cristnah,  
where He would stay some time to settle with Heyder and  
Mahomed Ally Caun.

**Sunday 9th.** Addressed the Select Committee at Bom- *Letter to*  
bay, acquainting them of Yesterdays Intelligence and also *Bombay*  
of Govind Row having proceeded towards Guzarat.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

I last did myself the Pleasure to Address Your Honor *Raghoba's*  
&ca the 27th ultimo ; since which nothing particular has *plans*  
happened. By the last Accounts from Camp, from the best  
information I can procure, Ragobah had only marched  
twenty two Coase to the Southward of Culburgah [*Gulbar-*  
*ga*], in His way to the Conflux of the two Rivers, Cristnah  
and the Tonbahader [*Tungabhadra*] ; at which Place He  
means make some stay in Order to Endeavour amicably to  
settle matters with Heyder Ally and Mahomed Ally Caun ;  
which if he cannot do, it's said He means to go himself or  
Dispatch Forces into the Carnatick ; which must prevent  
His return for three Months at least ; and indeed I am  
credibly informed He has no intention of coming to Poonah  
sooner.

Conformable to my last, Govind Row Gaikwar left *Govind*  
Camp, and some Days ago passed within Coase of this Place *Rao*  
with about 3,000 of His own Troops towards Guzarat to *Gaikwar*  
Endeavour to Dispossess His Brother, Futtysing, of the Go-

Railway. It is of historic interest as the place where the Gaikwars  
first fixed their head-quarters. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XXIII, 83, and  
*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 584-585) "Songad may be considered to be the  
cradle of the Gaikwar line of princes." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 7)

vernment ; for which purpose Ragobah has lent Him some Guns and promised two thousand Men, but the Latter have not Joined Him.

*Defeat of the Jats* Letters were a few days ago received from Hindostan, which brings Intelligence the King has beat the Jauts out of the Field, and that one of the most principal is retired into Dig,<sup>1</sup> in which He is surrounded by the Mogul Army ; and also that the King has deprived this Government of all their possessions in the Entrebade or between the Jumnah and Gungah, and that some of His Forces are advanced as far as Gualeor [*Gwalior*].

Poonah, 9th January, 1774.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs.

Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

*Letter to Bombay* **Monday 10th.** Also wrote the Board of Bombay large, requesting their permission to repair to Bombay for a few weeks, which for the reasons therein set forth will, I hope, meet my Hon'ble Employers Approbation.  
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

*Request to visit Bombay* Having for a long while had a very Ill state of Health, which added to my private Concerns, I for some time past have had thoughts of applying to your Honor &ca for permission to return to the Presidency for a short space, in hopes of being able to Re-establish the Former and settle the Latter ; but have hitherto defered my Application on Account of it's being uncertain how long Ragobah meant to

1. After Nazaf Khan had defeated Nawal Singh in the battle of Barsana on the 31st October 1773, "Nawal Singh had fled from Barsana towards Deeg." (Qanungo, *History of the Jats* I, 267) Najaf Khan did not succeed in capturing Deeg. When he heard that Shuja-ud-daula was coming to the rescue of the Jats, he rushed to Agra, and successfully prevented the junction of the Jat garrison at Agra with the Troops of Shuja-ud-daula. (See Appendix No. 35) The final siege of Deeg was begun in May, 1775, and ended with its capture in April, 1776. (Qanungo. *History of the Jats*, I, 287)

keep the Field ; but as he is now Advanced with His Army near the Conflux of the Cristnah and Tungbahader [*Tungabhadra*], which renders it impossible to return to Poonah, if He was inclined, in less than two Months—and Indeed I am confidently assured He means not to return till the month of May—I flatter myself you will have no objections to my coming to Bombay for a few weeks ; more particularly so, as no Negotiation can Offer till Ragobah comes back ; but even should ought Occur, I can at any time return hither in three days ; and as I shall acquaint Mr. Lane from whence I have my Intelligence, He will constantly keep You and the other Presidencies advised of anything that may happen in my Absence.

Poonah, 10th January, 1774.

I am with Respect,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your most Obedt, Humble Servt.

**Tuesday 11th.** Received a Letter from Fort William ; *Letter* their Request, therein Contained, has already been Compli- *from* ed with, as far as I have been able to learn ; and I shall *Calcutta* continue to use my utmost Endeavour to get the most perfect information and keep them Constantly Advised of whatever may be interesting to the Hon'ble Company, or necessary for them to be acquainted with.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 9th September reached Us only *Reference* lately. *to letter*

From the great Distance of the Morattah Government *Request* and the little intercourse we have with that People, we De- *for news* pend wholly on You for Authentic Accounts of their Publick measures as well as their Domestick Transactions.



We request therefore you will be particularly<sup>1</sup> in Your Information concerning the State of the different parties and the Turn Affairs are likely to take in Consequence of the late Revolution, which has happened at Poonah ; and as we are more immediately interested in the Designs, which the Morattahs may Form with Respect to the Country towards Dilley and the places which they lately occupied on the Banks of the Ganges and Jumnah, that you will Endeavour to Obtain and Convey to Us the earliest Intelligence of their Counsells and Resolutions on this Subject.

We enclose Duplicate of our last Letter and are,

SIR,

Your most Obedt, Humble Servts.

Fort William, 19th November, 1773.

*News from Hindu-  
stan*      The Cossid that brought the above Letter informs me that Sujah Dowlah was Encamped at Canparah [*Cawnpore*] in the Entrebade,<sup>2</sup> with Sixty thousand men, including three Battalions of English, who had turned out all the Morattah Chokeys there, and intended marching against the Rajah of Purneah of Hindu Pad;<sup>3</sup> That the King was at Dilley, and that Nizeeb Caun [*Najaf Khan*] had beat the Jauts. Navelsing, the Principal of them, had taken shelter in Dig, but His Brother, Ranjedsing [*Ranjit Singh*], had met the King.

*Mudaji  
Bhonsle*      **Friday 14th.** Received two Letters from Camp, but being of an Old Date (owing to the roads being infested with Robbers obliged the Cossids to come round about) they contained nothing new, except that Moodajee has

1. In the manuscript the scribe has added 'ly' to 'particular' apparently by way of correction ; but the sentence should read : You will be particular in your information etc.

2. See *Diary*, December 1, 1773.

3. The Persian 'pad' means throne. (Hobson-Jobson under Padshaw). Hence Hindu Pad means Hindu kingdom.

actually taken leave of Ragobah, and Marched a small Distance; and confirm my Intelligence, received the 26th Ulto regarding the Dutch Vackeel.

**Saturday 15th.** I am informed that Advices are *Raghoba's* received that Ragobah Crossed the Cristnah some time *campaign* since, yet undetermined whether or not to proceed further, waiting for Answers to Letters wrote both to Heyder Ally and Mahomed Ally Caun; also that Bursallat Jung<sup>1</sup> had a meeting with Ragobah, and that the Nizam with His army is some Distance behind.

**Monday 17th.** Reports in Town say Ragobah had *Raghoba* Crossed the Tungbahader [*Tungabhadra*] and supposed that *and the* He intends Marching to Arcote [*Arcot*]; in the evening *Nizam* further Reports say the Nizam has Marched on a sudden and Joined Ragobah, who is, it is said, Marching as fast as possible towards the Carnatick.

**Thursday 20th.** The Nizam, after meeting Ragobah and Dining in His Tent, continued at Coolee Sangome,<sup>2</sup> and Ragobah marched on towards the Carnatick.

**Friday 21st.** I am informed Narrow Appah has *Movement* received two Orders to send as fast as possible Money to *of troops* Camp, and that Ragobah had passed Coomarcaway Gotts; and likewise that Heyders Forces were behind Dumoncherry<sup>3</sup>, to which place, it is said, Mahomed Ally Cauns Forces were also advancing. Trimbuck Row Mamma, notwithstanding the repeated Orders he has received to Join Ragobah, is still to the Northward of Aurungabad, and Sabajee Bouncello is with Him.

1. Basalat Jung, the Nizam's brother.

2. The confluence of the Kistna and the Tungabhadra.

3. Damalcheruvu Pass situated in 13° 20' N. and 79° 3' E. It leads from the Carnatic to the Mysore Plateau, and was consequently the scene of frequent fighting in the eighteenth century. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XI, 128) Pope calls it the Damalcheri Pass (Pope, 184)

By an Express Camel this Evening from Camp the Intelligence I received in the morning is Confirmed, adding that Ragobahs Intentions are certainly against Mahomed Ally Caun ; likewise that Heyder had not yet paid anything, nor was it believed He would ; and also that Bursallat Jung had returned to Idonee,<sup>1</sup> and Ibrahim Caun Downsaw was at Beeder [*Bidar*], but intended to Join the Nizam soon.

*Nana Farnavis* **Saturday 22nd.** At noon Nanna Furneese came to Town,<sup>2</sup> on what Account I have not yet learnt.

**Sunday 23rd.** This morning sent my Compliments to Nanna, and that I would [*visit him*], if He was at leisure. He excused Himself, to-day and to-morrow being Fast Days, but would send and let me know when it would be agreeable. It is given out He is come to Town in Order to be present at the Ceremony of Putting the String on Morabah Furneeses Son, tho' it's imagined He will not remain long here.

*Movement of troops* **Monday 24th.** By a Camel, arrived this morning from the army, I learn from the Driver, when He left it, they had Marched from Ballari [*Bellary*], and that Tippoo Saib was actually behind Dumoncherry Gott, to which place *Letter to Bombay* Mahomed Ally Cauns Forces are coming. In the evening addressed the Select Committee at Bombay, advising them of this mornings Intelligence and every thing material since my last.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*Movement of troops* My last respects waited on Your Honour &ca the 9th Instant, and last Night and Express Camel arrived, which

1. "Adoni in the Bellary District possesses a strong fort and played an important part in the wars of the Deccan. In 1756 the Nizam granted Adoni as a Jagir to his brother, Basalat Jang." (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, V, 24.)

2. In the light of the events subsequently recorded in the *Diary*, Nana Farnavis' arrival at Poona on the 22nd January, 1774, was the occasion for the Barbhair plotters to come in the open.

brought Intelligence that Heyder and Mahomed Ally Caun had not Yet settled aught with Ragobah ; nor had any Embassy been sent from either, tho' Letters had passed between them. Ragobah with His Army the Day this Express left Camp *Raghoba* (which was ten Days ago) marched from Ballaree [*Bellary*] towards the Carnatick, against which His present Intentions are fully bent, nor indeed does He make a Secret of it. The Camel Driver says, but with what truth I know not, as *Tipu* no Letters mention it, that Tippoo Siab,<sup>1</sup> with a great part of Heyders Forces, is Encamped behind the pass at Dumoncherry Gotts [*Damalcheruvu Ghat*], to which place the Nabob of Arcotes Army is also Advancing. This however carries the greater Appearance of truth with it, as, from what I can I learn, this Gotte is the principal pass into the Carnatick ; at which should the Morattahs not be able to Enter, they will be obliged to make a long Circuit thro' Heyders Country.

The Nizam, after having for some time remained near *The* Culburgah [*Gulbarga*], on Pretence of some Religious *Nizam* Ceremonies, marched on a Sudden, and had a meeting with Ragobah on the other side the Cristnah ; but the Purport of the meeting, or what the Nizams intentions are is not known, as He has not accompanied Ragobah, but by the latest advices was Encamped where He met Him.

Nanna Furneese came to Town two Days ago, and *Nana* Morabah is soon Expected in Order to perform the Cere- *Farnavis* mony of putting on the Brahmins String on His Son. Trimbuck Row Mamma has some time since settled *Sabaji* matters with Sabajee Bouncello, who has in consequence *Bhonsle* joined Him, and they now are about thirty Coase to the Northward of Aurungabad, which Station they do not seem

1. Sahib is occasionally used as a specific title both among Hindus and Musulmans, e.g. Appa Sahib, Tipu Sahib. (Hobson-Jobson)

inclined to quit ; for though the former has had Expresses sent Him from Ragobah with Orders to Join Him, He has as yet made no motions as if He meant to Comply with the summons.

Poonah, 24th January, 1774.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Yours most Obt, Humble Servt.

*Movement  
of troops*

**Thursday 25th.** I am told Narrow Appa has Ordered Bahadesing, Subedar of the Guards at Setterah, who are as a Chokey over the Rajah, to repair with His People (about 1,500) to Poonah ; also ordered the return of 1,500 men lately sent down into the Conkon ; the Reasons for these movements<sup>1</sup> I cannot as yet for certain Discover.

*Letter  
from  
Bombay*

In the Evening I was favoured with the Commands of my Superiors at Bombay, to which Place they have been pleased to permit me to return to for the Recovery of my Health. I shall accordingly set out, as soon as I can procure the necessary Passports to go and come ; by which time I am in hopes Morabah Furneese will come to Town ; but should he Not, I propose waiting a few Days, being anxious to see Him, as I may from Him probably be able to learn something of what is intended by the Party [*which*], I have for a long while been privately acquainted, is Forming against Ragobah<sup>2</sup> by almost all the Brahim Officers and Old Ministers.

Sir,

*Leave*

Your Letter dated the 10th Instant has been duly received.

As you represent that your health as well as Your Private Affairs requires your removal for a short time

1. Nana Farnavis was surrounding himself with troops in Poona in order carry out the Barbhai Plot.

2. The Barbhai Plot. Appendix No. 39.

hither, and that Your absence can be attended with no Detriment to the Interest of our Hon'ble Employers, as Ragobah and the Ministers are at so great Distance from Poonah, we have therefore thought Proper to comply with your Request, and accordingly permit You to return for a short time to the Presidency, directing that You leave Your Assistant, Mr. Lane, at Poonah with every requisite Instruction for Advising Us and the other Presidencies of every turn in the Morattah Government or on every material Intelligence that He may be able to procure, which can Effect [*affect*] the Interest of our Hon'ble Masters in any Part of Hindostan.

Bombay, 22nd January, 1774.

We are,  
Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

JOHN WATSON

BENJAMIN JERVIS

WILLIAM TAYLER.

NATH. STACKHOUSE

**Wednesday 26th.** As Nanna Furneese had not yet *Nana* sent to acquaint me when it would be agreeable my wait- *Farnavis* ing on Him, I this morning sent again; but as before, He either pretended, or was really Engaged.

I am this afternoon credibly informed that in a few *Plot* days it is intended to carry Gungabay and Perwettybay<sup>1</sup> *against* out of the Palace here to Setterah, and that Nannas coming to town was solely on that account, and what was said about Morabahs son only a Pretence to Draw all the Old ministers to Poonah without giving suspicion of their Designs, which are, it seems, to Endeavour to Cut off Ragobah, in which they are to be Assisted by the Pretenary and many other Bramin Officers as also by the Nizam, Sabajee Bouncello and Deriabay. It is said Nanna and Sacaram

1. Gangabai was carried off on [January 30, 1775. Macdonald, *Memoir and Life of the Late Nana Farnavis*, p. 24)

are to carry on the Government when they have made away with Ragobah, to hasten the Effecting of which they Yesterday Dispatched Letters to their Friends in Camp.

**Thursday 27th.** This morning the Intelligence I Yesterday received respecting the securing the Women, is confirmed by Different Hands, and that this Evening or four Days hence was the time Fixed for putting into Execution ; notwithstanding this, I believe, is true and what the Ministers intend, Yet as Circumstances may Intervene to prevent it, I purpose to defer to Advise my Superiors untill I am at certainty, and delay my going to Bombay till I see what turn affairs will take.

*Bombay claims* At night received a Letter from the Hon'ble the President, Directing me to Demand restitution of the Bombay Merchant Ketch and Cargo which the Morattahs had taken off Bancoote, coming up from Goa, and carried to Gariah, pretending the goods on Board were Portugueze property ; also to insist, should they hesitate in giving Her up, that they make good to the Owners the Heavy Loss they may sustain by Her Detention.

*Order forwarded* **Friday 28th.** Early this morning sent to Narron Shamjee Chitnees to Acquaint Him of the Order I had received from Bombay, and to set forth the unaccountable Conduct of their Officers on the Coast, and that I expected, if they had any regard for the Presidentship, they would immediately give Orders for the release of the Vessel and Cargo in the same condition as when they seized Her, otherwise must not take it amiss if we redressed Ourselves. I also acquainted Him I had a Letter from the Governor for Ragobah, and therefore must have an audience this afternoon ; for, should they pretend that it was necessary to send the Letter to Ragobah and wait His *Poona reply* Answers, I knew it was unnecessary ; for Narrow Appah Himself could finish the Business. Narron Shamjee sent

me word He would Represent the whole to His Master and in the afternoon send for the Linguist and give me an Answer; accordingly in the afternoon the Linguist was sent for, by whom I sent the Governors Letter to Ragobah. Narrow Appah at first hesitated to open it, but on representing the Loss of time in getting an Answer, and that it was not possible to wait so long, He ordered the Chitnees to open it; and after every Circumstance was Explained, He promised to give an Order for the Release of the Vessel and Cargo the next morning.

I am this evening informed Ragobah has sent a Force *Raghoba's troops* to Demand of the Ministers a Considerable Sum of money and to keep a strict watch over the Palace, that the Women do not Escape; and they are Expected to arrive every Day. I am also Assured it was last night Determined by *Sadoba* the Ministers to release Sudabah<sup>1</sup> out of Dowlatabad [*Daulatabad*] and bring Him to Poonah; there has been some time whispers of this being intended, but I do not give entire Credit to it.

Late in the Evening Morabah Furneese came to town.

**Saturday 29th.** Reports this morning strongly prevail that the Women will be carried out of the Palace to morrow; and this is Confirmed to me by one of the Party. *Gangabai Sadoba* It is also Current in town that Sudabah is to be released; and for this Purpose Trimbuck Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello with a very large Force are waiting at Koorcoome<sup>2</sup> about 50 Coase off, to escort Him to Prondar [*Puran-dhar*] to which place, it is now said, the Women will be carried, and not to Setterah.

1. Appendix No. 33. The Ministers were well aware that Sadoba had fallen on the battlefield of Panipat.

2. Afterwards written Kircoom, it stands for Karkamb, a town 13 miles north of Pandharpur.



*Raghoba's contingent* In the Evening Advice was brought me that this afternoon two Officers with 500 Horse belonging to Ragobah are arrived near Town, and six thousand more were Expected daily to take from the Ministers a Sum of Money, and to guard the Place.

*News from camp* At night received three Letters from Camp ; they mention that Ragobah is still Encamped near Ballori [Bellary], that nothing is not yet settled with either Mahomed Ally Caun or Heyder, and likewise the [that] Crust Row Ballal and Baboojee Naique have retired from Camp with leave.

*Departure for Purandhar* **Sunday 30th.** About 4 o'clock this morning the Gun Fired earlier by an Hour than usual ; immediately Anant Row Jeevajee sent to borrow my Horse, acquainting me at the same time that the Women<sup>1</sup> were going away. Instantly sent the Horse accompanied by a proper Person to see what was going Forward, with Directions to inquire how they intended to Act, where they were going to, and in what manner the Government was to be Conducted. He sent me word they were going to Pronder [Purandhar], and that the Government would be carried on by the Ministers, but had not time to Explain matters.

At six O'clock the Women left the Palace, escorted by Nanna Furneese, Hurry Punt, and Anant Row Jeevajee with about 500 Horse and Foot. Morabah, it seems [stays] a Day or two to settle matters and Issue Orders.

1. Gangabai and Parvatibai, according to Mostyn and the Memoir of Nana Farnavis. Kincaid and Paransnis state, "and with them was made to go Durgabai, Anandibai's daughter, that she might be a witness of the confinement, (Kincaid and Paransnis, *A History of the Maratha People*, III, 108, referring to Khare's *Life of Nana Phadnavis*) According to another source, "five Bramin Women then with child accompanied her, thus they Obtained a great probability that a male child should be born in that fortress." (*Historical Account*, 56)

Wrote my Superiors at Bombay, acquainting them of the Foregoing and the probable Consequences this Conduct of the Ministers would have with Ragobah, but deferred closining [*closing*] it, in hope I still be able to see Morabah; and after repeated messages he sent for me; but receiving me in Publick, nothing passed but compliments; however whilst I was there, appearances from the Behaviour of all the Fort Officers in Town, and Orders being Issued by Morabah in Gungabays name and Naron Rows Sicca to all the Forts, and placing Chokeys on all those in Ragobahs Interest, I was Convinced the Ministers had no thought of taking out Sudabah<sup>1</sup>; but meant to seize the Government themselves under Cloak of Gungabay and Her Issue; this Surmise has been Confirmed, and by What I have since heard, the People were actually sent to Dowlatabad to bring Him, but it seems it was all an artifice of the Ministers to blind His Wife,<sup>1</sup> Perwettybay, & induce Her to go with them, to which She was at first averse. *Letter kept back Sadoba Ministers in power*

Closed my Address, adding the following Intelligence. *Letter to Bombay*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

I last addressed Your Honor &ca the 24th Instant, and this is solely to acquaint You that Nanna Furneese, Hurry Punt Furkiah and Anant Row Jeevajee this morning at Day break carried Off Gungabay, Naron Rows Widow, (who is seven months gone with Child) and Perwettybay, Sudabahs Wife, to Pronder Fort; all the Old Ministers, and Brahmin Officers are to a Man concerned, and I am Credibly informed that Tookajee Holker, Madjee Scindy, Sabajee Bouncello and the Nizam are in the League against Ragobah. *Plot against Raghoba*

This conduct of the Ministers can no longer admit of

concealing their Intentions, and they must now Act openly against Ragobah ; indeed it is said an Order is Dispatched from hence to Dowlatabad for Sudabah (So long confined) to be released, and that His Uncle, Trimluck Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello, Joined by the Forces raised by the Different Ministers, in all about 60,000 Men, are near Koorcumb, fifty Coase off, to Conduct Him to Poonah.

*Situation in Poona* From this Formidable Alliance there is little reason to think Ragobah will Continue in the Government long ; and notwithstanding some of the Ministers have been in Town several Days, and I have frequently requested to be permitted to Visit them, they have always evaded it, which sufficiently evinces they wish not to be Connected with Us ; and should Sudabah be released, from the large Force under Trimluck Row Mamma and the many Alliances said to be formed in His Favour, there is very little room to apprehend He will make any Offers for our Assistance. I therefore must request your Honor &cas Orders for my future Conduct, which will be the more necessary as every Minister and Man of Consequence has, or is preparing to leave the Place.

*News from camp* This morning I received Letters from Camp in ten Days by which I learn the Morattahs with Ragobah continue still near Ballari [*Bellary*], and that nothing was yet settled with Heyder or Mahomed Ally Caun, and that Baboojee Naique and Crast Row Balal are with leave retired from Camp, but it is not known whither they are gone to ; however I fancy, as soon as the intelligence reaches Ragobah, He will give up all thoughts of the Carnatick and be obliged to Attend to His own safety.

*Ministers in power* I have defered Closing the foregoing in Expectation of being able to see Morabah Furneese before He sets out ; and at last after many applications was sent for this afternoon, but He received me in Publick, and nothing passed

but a few Compliments. However from what I could perceive and have since learnt it seems as if the Ministers meant to Grasp at the Peshwaship themselves and carry it on in the name of Gungabay and Her Issue; for Orders have already been issued to the Different Forts by Morabah in Her name and Naron Rows Sicca; and He has made the Cutwall Prisoner, and placed Chokeys on all the Houses of those in Ragobahs Interest; from this behaviour of Morabah it appears to me as if the Orders Dispatched for Sudabahs release was only a Finesse to induce His wife the readier to leave Poonah, and that they really do not mean to take Him out at all. But Your Honor &c may be Assured I shall Constantly keep You advised of whatever turn affairs may take.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,  
Your Most Obt Servt.

Poonah, 30th January, 1774.

Addressed also the Select Committee at Fort St. George, advising them of the foregoing Transaction and other necessary occurrences. *Letter to Madras*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Duplicate of my last respects to Your Honor &c of the 26th Ulto is Enlosed, and this is Dispatched principally to Advise You that Nanna Furneese, Hurry Punt Furkiah and Anant Row Jeevajee this morning at day Break carried Off Gungabay, Naron Rows Widow, (who is seven months gone with Child) and Perwettybay, Sudabahs Wife. All the Old Ministers (who as I before acquainted You were Disgusted at Ragobah) and Brahmin Officers are concerned; and I am Credibly Informed Tookajee Holker, Madjee Scindy and the Nizam are in the League against Ragobah. *Plot against Raghoba*

This Conduct of the Ministers, with the very Large Force they have got together under Trimbuck Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello, can no longer admit of concealing their Intention; for they now in Fact have declared open War against Ragobah; some say they mean to take out Sudabah, so long confined in Dowlatabad Fort, and that Orders Are gone from hence for that Purpose; but from Present appearances it seems to me as if the Ministers meant to Grasp at the Peshwaship themselves, or carry it on under the name of Gungabay and Her Issue; for Morabah Furneese Has already sent Orders to the different Forts in Her name and Naron Rows Sicca, and has put Chokeys on every one suspected to be in Ragobahs Interest.

When the above Intelligence reaches Ragobah, I fancy He will drop all thoughts of the Carnatick, and be obliged to attend to His own Preservation; indeed from the Foregoing Combination there is little reason to think He will be able to Escape the snares laid for His Distruction, more particularly as the greatest part of His own Army are against Him. But whatever may happen in Camp, from its situation your Honor &c will have much earlier notice of than I can send; for by Letters I received this morning in Ten Days, Ragobah was advanced beyond Ballari; but He had not, when these Dispatches came away, settled  
*Hindus-* aught with Heyder. The last letters received from Hindo-  
*tan* stan [mention] that the King with Sujah-ud-Dowlah had entirely Dispossessed this Government of all they had between the Ganga and Jumnah, and that they had beat the Jauts out of the Field and were Besieging the last of any Consequence in Dig; from the troubles in the Deckan and the almost impossibility of this Durbars being able to send any Forces this Season into Hindustan it is likely the

Morattahs will forever be Deprived of the immense Revenues they formerly drew from that Quarter.

Poonah, 30th January, 1774.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,  
Your most Obt, Humble St.

At night Anant Row Jeevajee returning from Pronder, *Ministers* sent my Compliments to Him, and requested to be acquainted *plans* with the news. He sent me word the Women were safely lodged in Pronder, and that they will remain there for some Days, untill a Force could be gathered together, when they will all go to Setterah, and from thence send a Force against Ragobah in case there was occasion ; but imagined Ragobah was by this time a Prisoner or no more, as Orders were gone to their Party in the Morattah Army for that Purpose.<sup>1</sup>

**Monday 31st.** Morabah left Town and went to His *Measures* Garden in Order to proceed to Pronder. I am also inform- *by the* ed He has wrote to all the Officers of the Forts they must *Ministers* now look upon themselves as Servants to the Naron Rows Widow and Her Issue as being the Legal Descendants of Badjee Row. He has likewise placed Chokeys on all the Roads to prevent People from running away and stop all Cossids with Letters, and also Dispatched Letters to Tookajee Holker and Madjee Scindy.

I am Credibly informed that the releasing Sudabah *Sadoba* was all a Cheat to deceive His Wife, and no such thing ever intended.

Addressed the Select Committee at Fort William, ac- *Letter to* knowledging receipt of their Letter and informing them of *Calcutta* everything material.

1. Raghoba's imprisonment or his death was for the ministers the shortest road to success.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*Reference to letters* Your last Favour, tho' dated the 19th November, did not reach me till the 11th Instant ; long before Your Honor &cas Commands arrived, I in my different Addresses (Duplicate of the last of which is Enclosed) advised You of the Situation of Affairs here and also with the Disaffection of the Ministers to Ragobahs Government ; they did not however openly appear to Act against Him till Yesterday morning, when three of them, Nanna Furneese, Hurry Punt Furkiah and Anant Row Jeevajee, carried off Gungabay, Naron Rows Widow, (who is seven months gone with Child) and Perwettybay, Sudabahs Wife, to Pronder Fort ; all the old Ministers and Bramin Officers to a Man with *Plot against Raghoba* Sabajee Bouncello are concerned ; and I am informed Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker and even the Nizam (notwithstanding the late Peace) are in the League against Ragobah. The Ministers have got together a very large Force under Trimbuck Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello, said to be sixty thousand Men ; but they Yet do not seem to be fixed on the mode of carrying on the Government ; some say they mean to take out Sudabah, so long Confined in Dowlatabad Fort; but it appears to me from their Present Conduct as if they meant to seize on the Peshwaship themselves, or carry it on under the name of Gungabay and Her Issue ; for Orders have already been sent to the Different Forts &ca in Her name and Naron Rows Sicca, and Chokeys are placed on every one suspected to be in Ragobahs Interest ; indeed many of His Friends have been imprisoned.

Ragobah, as I informed your Honor &ca in my last, had some thoughts of returning to Poonah ; but I have reason to believe He was Dissuaded from it by the Intrigues of His Enemies, who wished him as far as possible from the Centre of His Dominions, that they might have the better

opportunity of Carrying their Schemes into Execution ; for by Letters I received Yesterday from His Camp He was Advanced so far beyond the Chrisnah as Ballari ; but as soon as this news reaches Him, I should suppose He will give over all thoughts of Foreign Affairs and be under the necessity of attending to His own Safety, though there is very little reason to think He will be able to stand before this Formidable Combination, particularly so as the greatest part of His own army are against Him. From the foregoing Troubles Your Honor &c will perceive the almost impossibility of this Government being able to send or make any attempts this Season or for a longer period to regain their Former possessions in Hindostan ; for so far from having any Idea of sending any Troops there at Present, even Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker, as before observed, are expected to perform a part in the scenes that are now acting in the Deckan.

Poonah, 31st January, 1774.

I am, with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
Your most Obt, Humble St.

*P. S.*—Since closing the above I am credibly informed there is not the least thought of taking out Sudabah, but that the Ministers absolutely mean to carry things on in Gungabays Name till she is brought to Bed. Had they released Sudabah, from His known Abilities this Government might have been Re-established ; but from their omitting to do it there is great room to apprehend the whole will go to Distruction.

The account Disbursements being Closed for this *Accounts* month, they are agreeable to the Following Extract.



Extract of Disbursements for the Residency of Poonah  
for the Month of January, 1774.

To Factory Charges	...	...	691-1-50
„ Provision money to Sundries		...	170-2-,,
„ Stable Charges	...	...	77-1-50
„ Account presents	...	...	96-2-,,
„ Charges Extraordinary including pre- sents to the servants on new Years Day	...	...	379-2-,,
			<hr/>
			1,415-1-,,

Poonah, 31st January, 1774.

### February.

*Unreliable rumours* **Tuesday 1st.** I am this morning informed Morabahn has received a Letter from Nanna, which has Induced Him to stay a few Days longer at His Garden. The reports in Town Vary so much regarding the Ministers and Women, that I determined to Dispatch one of my own People to Pronder to see what they [*are*] about, and learn what Force they had with them, also Discover whether any of them were gone or going to Setterah, and if possible to Find out what they intended to [*do*], as for some reports have prevailed that they mean to take out the Rajah.

*Raghoba's escape* **Wednesday 2nd.** Reports are Current this morning that Ragobah, having got notice some Scheme was forming to Secure Him, had made off from His Army with about seven thousand Horse, being all what would accompany Him; should this be true, the Ministers may not be so certain of getting Him into their Possession as they imagined; for He most [*must*] undoubtedly be supported by some of His Friends. However, to be Clear, before I advised my Superiors, I sent to Narrow Appahs Chitnees, & requested to know if He had any news. He returned

for Answer that an Express Camel had arrived from Camp, but brought no particular Intelligence, tho' He had heard three Reports to the same Purport as I had, but was certain there was no Foundation for any of them.

Letters in five Days from Soongur [*Songarh*] mention *Govind R. Gaikwar* that Govind Row was within three Coase of Futtysings People; and His Duan, Thoban, with 1500 Men had advanced ahead with an intent to Attack them; but they, getting notice of it, Marched upon Govind Rows Men, when they were in a narrow pass, and drove them back with considerable Loss, and made Thoban a Prisoner, who was wounded.

The Man I sent Yesterday to Pronder, finding every- *News from Pu- randhar* body there, did not proceed to Setterah. He says the Women with Sacaram and Nanna are in the Fort, and in a Garden at the foot are about two thousand Horse; and also that Trimback Row Mamma is at Kircoom; nor is there the least talk of releasing Sudabah, and that the Ministers had no immediate thoughts of going to Setterah.

**Thursday 3rd.** This morning reports say Ragobah has *Raghoba's escape* a Considerable Force with Him; and what gives Credit to it is the Ministeral Parties sending away their Families and Effects into Forts; indeed both Parties seem to be securing their Effects, Judging Affairs must be soon in the utmost Confusion and not knowing which may get the upper hand.

The Mirdah<sup>1</sup> of the Government Pattamars tells me Letters were received from Rastiah, which Confirm the Reports of Ragobahs having fled towards Heyder, & carried His Family with Him; this intelligence being of the utmost Consequence, if true, as it will give us fairest opening for Acting in His behalf, and by that means be able to Secure the Places the Hon'ble Company want, and as much more

1. The head of the pattamars.

as we can, to make a merit of returning, on Condition of keeping the rest.<sup>1</sup>

I sent to Abajee Sivajee, who is an Intelligent Man and Conversed with many principal people in Government, to know if he had heard anything of this news. He sent me word a Letter was last night received by Narrrow Appah, which he concealed ; but some Merchants Letters mentioned that Ragobah was fled and gone to Morah Row Gorparah, and likewise that the Ministers have Ordered all the Money and Jewels out of the Palace to Pronder [Purandhar], and sent the Families of those in Ragobahs interest Prisoners into Forts. I sent again to Him to know if this news might be Depended upon. He requested my patience untill the Evening, when He would let me know for certain. In the evening Abajee acquainted me a Merchant had received a Letter in Six Days, which mentions that Ragobah is fled and gone to Morah Row. He also sends me word He hears Morabah Furneese had now declined acting in Conjunction with the other Ministers, and means to rest neuter.

*Contra-* Late at night am informed two Express Camels are  
*dictory* this instant arrived in six days and Half from Camp ; and  
*reports* Drivers say Ragobah is perfectly well in Camp with all His Army about Him, three days Journey to the southward of Bellari [Bellary] ; and so far from his having been killed, taken, or run away, that there was no news, when He left Camp, of any troubles in Poonah or of the Ministers

*Letter* Intentions. This is so totally the Reverse of all the Intelli-  
*postponed* gence I have this afternoon had both from Shroffs and Bramins, that I know not what to believe. I had prepared a Letter for my Superiors, acquainting them of Ragobahs Elopement ; but now, until I can be at a greater certainty,

1. See *Diary*, March 14, 1773, note.

Judge it best to wait ; for from the Orders I received from the Governor on the 18th December, when I before wrote the Committee under the 3rd of that Month of Ragobahs doubtful situation, I cannot but suppose they have come to a Resolution of attempting the possession of the Islands, in case of Ragobahs defeat or Death ; therefore should I advise them, and the Information not be true, It may lead them to instant measures prejudicial to the Company and Contrary to their Intentions ; it is a matter of too much importance not to be clear in ; and therefore safer to loose a day or two in the advices than run the Hazard of sending them such as cannot be depended on.

**Friday 4th.** Several different Reports have prevailed *Reliable* in turn to day ; but the following intelligence, received this *news* evening, may be depended upon. A Letter, received by Appajee Punt from His Brother in seven days, mentions that Ragobah was set out from Ballari, and gone to Cartick Swamy<sup>1</sup> with ten thousand Horse on some Religious Ceremony, that he had settled matters with Heyder, and received 72,000 Rupees Tribute from Ballari [*Bellary*]. Determined no longer to defer advising my Superiors *Letter to* of the foregoing and several other matters necessary for *and from* them to be informed of. But before I could close my *Bombay* Address to them, received the Committees Commands of the second. I am concerned to find they give me no Instructions, tho' particularly requested in my Address of the 30th ulto, for my guidance ; indeed, they say they can give me no precise Directions at this nice Juncture of Affairs, but think my presence now absolutely necessary ; and therefore revoke the permission the Board had given me to go to Bombay for a short time for my Health ; and again Direct me to attend to my Instructions to Communicate to the

1. Karthikswamy or Kharthigesan is Subramanian, the younger son of Siva.

other Presidencies every Intelligence that may affect them.  
*Mostyn* I cannot help Observing their revoking my leave was  
*indignant* quite unnecessary ; for had I an inclination to prefer my  
 Health or private Concerns before my Employers Interest,  
 there was full time for me to have got to Bombay between  
 the Receipt of the Boards permission and the Committees  
 Order to remain here ; and with respect to reminding me  
 to keep the other Presidencies advised, surely they must  
 think me totally negligent and stupid not to have instantly  
 informed them of Circumstances so very material to both,  
 particularly Fort St. George.

*Letter* To  
*from*  
*Bombay*

THOMAS MOSTYN, ESQR.

Resident at the Morattah Durbar at

POONAH.

SIR,

*Leave*  
*cancelled*

Your Letters, dated the 24th and 30th Ultio, have  
 come duly to hand ; and tho' it is not in our Power to give  
 You any precise Instructions for your Government in the  
 present situation of things at Poonah, yet as something may  
 turn out for the Interest of our Hon'ble Employers, we  
 deem it very requisite that You should be upon the spot ;  
 and therefore we Direct that you remain at Poonah till  
 further Orders in case your Health will possibly admit, not-  
 withstanding the permission given You by the Board under  
 the 22nd Ultio, to repair for a short time hither.

*Recom-*  
*menda-*  
*tions*

We shall rely on Your keeping Us Constantly  
 advised of every turn in the situation of Affairs, and we  
 trust that You diligently attend to that part of Your  
 Instructions which directs You to communicate to the other  
 Presidencies every Intelligence You may procure touching  
 the designs of the Morattahs or the Situation of the Affairs

of their Government, which may Affect the Companys Interest at either Bengal or Madrass.

Bombay, 2nd February, 1774.

We Are Your Loving Friends,

WILLIAM HORNBY

NATH. STACKHOUSE

DANIEL DRAPER

JOHN WATSON.

Letter to the Select Committee at  
BOMBAY.

HON<sup>BLE</sup> SIR & SIRS,

Since my last of the 30th Ultio nothing Very material *Letter to*  
has happened in Poonah. Agreeable to what I advised *Bombay*  
Your Honor &ca in the latter part thereof, the Ministers  
had never any real intentions of taking out Sudabah, and  
he is now entirely out of the Question. The Women with *Ministers*  
Sacaram Bapoo and Nanna Furneese still continue at *in power*  
Pronder, and have come to a Resolution to Conduct the  
Government in Gungabays name and Naron Rows Sicca till  
She is brought to Bed, Sacaram to be Duan and carry on  
the Business with the Assistance of the Furneese. Mora- *Moraba*  
bah remained in Town till the first [*of February*] (being  
employed in imprisoning the Families of Ragobahs Principal  
Friends and placing Chokeys on others), when he retired to  
His Garden Just without Poonah, where He now Issues  
Orders for the Different Affairs of the Government &ca,  
has Yesterday and to day sent away every thing in the  
Palace to Pronder even the very Copperware.

Letters, received this evening in seven Days from *Raghoba*  
Ragobahs Camp, mention His having left His Army near  
Ballari [*Bellary*] with Directions to remain there till he re-  
turned or sent them Orders, and gone Himself with 10,000  
men to Cartickswamy Pagodah on some Religious Cere-  
mony ; and as He will undoubtedly receive the news of the  
measures the Ministers have taken here, before He returns,  
it is possible He will take this Opportunity of leaving His

*Friends* Army, a great part of which is against Him, and fly to  
*or foes* Some Power for Protection. By the above Letters Heyder  
 had settled matters with Ragobah ; but whether He will  
 Assist him is not certain. The Nizam and Moodajee  
 Bouncello at present seem Neuter ; but what part they  
 may in future take in this Dispute is yet very doubtfull.

*Reply to* Having wrote thus far with an Intention of Dispatch.  
*Bombay* ing it at Gunfire in the morning, as all the Roads about  
 Town have Chokeys on them, Your Command of the 2nd  
 Instant came to Hand ; and can assure Your Honor & ca  
 the moment Affairs took the turn You have been advised  
 of, I instantly droped all the thoughts of leaving Poonah till  
 I had further Orders for that Purpose, preferring the Hon'-  
 ble Companys Interest to my Health ; and Agreeable to  
 the Instructions given me by the Board, I have ever kept  
 the Presidencies of Bengal and Madrass informed of every  
 material occurrence that has happened here, and indeed  
 lately have constantly wrote them once a month or  
 oftener.

Poonah, 4th Febry, 1774.

I am with Respect,  
 HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

Your most Obt, Humble Servt.

*Raghoba* **Saturday 5th.** This morning a Camel arrived from  
*takes* Camp with a Letter to Nanna Appah, acquainting Him  
*steps* Ragobah is at Cartick Swamy with 10,000 Horse, where  
 getting notice of the Ministers proceedings, had Ordered  
 500 Horse to Setterah to Seize the Rajah ; but the Minis-  
 ters, having Intelligence of it, directed the Rajah to be  
 carried up into the Fort, and wrote Ragobahs Officer He  
 had better Join them than stay there to no purpose.

*Letter* Received a Letter from Camp, dated the 18th Ultio,  
*from* which informs me of nothing new ; only of Morah Rows  
*camp* having met Ragobah, and that the Man I have in Camp for

Intelligence is sick and Obligated to Hire a Horse at half a Rupee a day to keep up with the Army ; I shall therefore the first Opportunity order Him away.

**Monday 7th.** I am informed Moodajee Bouncello has *Maratha* been Plundered by the Nizam ; it was occasioned by a Dispute *generals* arising between the different Foraging Parties. Sabajee Bouncello and Trimbuck Row Mamma have made some evasive Excuses for not coming to Join the Ministers ; and it's said Nanna is going to meet and endeavour to reconcile matters with them.

The Ministers have summoned all the Bramin and *Request* Guzerat merchants and Shroffs, it is believed to demand a *for money* Considerable Sum from them. The Bramins may possibly advance some, but the Guzerattes, I should suppose, will sooner leave the place than do it ; and indeed this is the first Time they were ever called upon.

**Tuesday 8th.** I was this morning surprized with the *Moraba* news of Morabah Furneeses going away, and that His Baggage had already marched ; but instead of going to Pronder, it's said he is going to Juneer,<sup>1</sup> thirty Coase to the Northward. I cannot Yet learn the reason of this sudden step, but have sent people to enquire.

**Wednesday 9th.** The reasons given for Morabahs going to Juneer are so widely different that I know not which to depend on ; the most probable seems to be His being Disgusted with Sacaram and Nanna, and Judging Ragobah may escape their Snares ; Therefore chooses to appear neuter untill He sees how matters are likely to end ; indeed it is possible He and His Father-in-law, Trimbuck Row Mamma, and Sabajee Bouncello may have separate *Trimbak* views ; for it's certainly mysterious Mammass neither *Rao* Joining the Ministers or Ragobah, but trifles away His time

1. Junnar 56 miles north of Poona ; the fort of Junnar is often noticed in Mahratta Annals. (*Imp. Gaz. Ind.* XIV, 239)



*Raghoba* in Beer (*Bhir*) Purgonnah. Reports in Town say that Ragobah is returned from Cartickswamy<sup>1</sup>; and on His arrival at the Army, Ordered those whose Fidelity He doubted to leave His Camp, and that He is now encamped some distance from the main Body of the Army with 15 or 20,000 good Horse; and likewise that He has sent Express Camels to Heyder and Mahomed Ally to request their Assistance.

*Plight of the Ministers* **Thursday 10th.** The news to Day is so various that there is hardly any Dependence upon it; however from the best information I can procure, Ragobah is certainly returned from Cartickswamy, and has with Him 15,000 good Horse, which He can confide in; this, with Morabahs going off and Mammas not Joining them, Intimates no good to the Ministerial Party and Convinces me their Affairs are precarious. Tookajee Holker and Madjee Scindy have yet made no motions towards Joining them; and from the Ministers present manner of proceeding it appears to me there is a disunion between them; and I shall not be surprized if their former animosities break out a fresh; in short their whole success depends upon Ragobahs being secured, which at present it does not seem likely. However as I judge the departure of Morabah is necessary for the Committee to be Advised of, Addressed them the following Letter.

To

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, Esqr.

President and Governor &ca Council on

BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*Raghoba* Since my last of the 4th Instant there has been no Letters that I can find received from Ragobahs Camp; therefore it's impossible to say with any Certainty how He

1. Karthigesan or Subramanian.

is situated ; but there are Reports in Town that He is returned from Cartickswamy, and is Joined by more Troops than he can depend on, in all about 15,000, and is come a days Journey this way ; it is also said, but with what truth I know not, He has wrote both Heyder and Mahomed Ally Caun for Assistance ; however as answers are daily expected to the Ministers Dispatched (*dispatches*) to their Friends in Camp the day they carried away Gungabay, I flatter myself I shall then be able to acquaint Your Honor &ca with the true state of things.

Trimbuck Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello have *Maratha* by some frivolous Excuse evaded Joining the Ministers and *generals* Women at Pronder, and have retired towards Ponderpore (*Pandharpur*). Nanna Furneese is set out for Mammas Camp to Endeavour to persuade Him and Sabajee to return to their Party ; but whether He will succeed in bringing them back, or what Trimbuck Rows views are, is very uncertain. Morabah has also, I am told, declared off from all further Connection with the Ministry ; and it's thought is gone to Lodge His Family in some Place of security, and afterwards means to Join Ragobah ; what motives can have Induced Him to this Conduct I cannot Discover ; but should suppose it must be some news He has received from Camp or the Behaviour of His Father-in-Law, Trimbuck Row Mamma ; but whichever it may be, a few Days must now Explain. Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker still remain in Hindostan, and seem to wait to see how Affairs will go before they Join either side.

Your Honor &ca may Observe from the foregoing the *Plight of* Ministers are already divided ; and I shall not be surprized *Ministers* if the old Quarrel, which formerly subsisted between the Furneeses and Sacaram Bapoo, was again soon to break out ; indeed their success now chiefly depends on Ragobahs

being imprisoned or Cut off by their Party in Camp ; which does not at present appear likely.

Tho' there is nothing very interesting in the above to our Hon'ble Masters Affairs, yet I thought it my duty to inform Your Honor &ca of this Alteration, as I shall of any other Change that may happen.

Poonah, 10th Febry, 1774.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,  
Your most Obt, Humble Servt.

*No news*      **Friday 11th.** No Advices have been received to-day from Camp ; however it cannot be long before Answers arrive to the Letters sent away the 30th ulto on the Women being taken out of the Palace, when we shall know how matters are likely to go.

*Ministers optimistic*      This afternoon I had a visit from one of the Principals that accompanied the Women to Pronder. He seems to think their Cause in a prosperous way ; tho' He acknowledged Ragobah has for the Present escaped them, and got 15,000 Men with Him ; but as He had no money, He could do little, as no Power would supply Him with both Men and Money ; therefore the People He had must leave Him ; and the Families of all those of any Consequence were in their hands ; they too of Course would be Detached from Him. He added as to themselves they had Money sufficient for a three Years war ; and He did not think Heyder would Assist Ragobah ; and Morah Row was secretly in their interest ; at all events the Ministers seem determined to Dispossess Ragobah, let what will be the Consequence.

*Offensive*      Late in the Evening I was informed Sacaram and Nanna with Hurry Punt have come to the Resolution of Joining Mamma with all the Force they have, being at present about 4,000, in Order to proceed against Ragobah.

**Saturday 12th.** Addressed the President and Council *Letter to Bombay* transmitting the monthly accounts for November, December and January.

To

The HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, Esq.  
President and Governor &ca Council on  
BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Your Commands of the 22nd Ulto have been duly received ; and this is solely to give Cover to the Factory Disbursements for November, December and January last ; for the amount of which, being Rupees 3,771-2-75, I have drawn on your Honor &ca two Bills of this Date in Favour of Ragojee Dinath, one for two thousand and the other for Rupees 1,771-2-75, which I request you will please to Honor. *Accounts*

Poonah, 12th Febry, 1774.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
Your most Obt, Humble Servt.

**Sunday 13th.** Very early this morning I am informed *Gooty* Advices have been received, which mention that Ragobah has taken the Protection of Gooty Fort<sup>1</sup> belonging to Morah Row. I immediately sent People to gain the best information they could from Shroffs and some Bramins in Government ; from them I learn Letters say that Ragobah received *Warned in time* the Intelligence of the Women being carried out of the Palace, three Hours before Vamon Row ; when He immedia-

1. Gooty Fort in Anantapur District, Madras, 47½ miles east of Bellary, is a famous old hill-fortress. About 1746 Morari Rao, the famous Maratha warrior, captured it. In 1775 Haidar Ali of Mysore captured the place after a prolonged siege. Haidar and Tipu held the place till 1799, when it fell to the Nizam. Since 1800 it has been a British possession. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XII, 327-329)

tely put such Troops as He knew were stanch to Him under Arms, being near 10,000, and Marched Off at mid day with Nagorah beating and Colours flying, taking the Road to Gooty Fort. As the knowledge of this is of importance to my Superiors, and probably may induce them to take some measures for securing to the Company the wished for possessions, immediately wrote the Committee, advising them of the above ; and at the same time gave my Sentiments with Respect to Morah Row, who, I cannot think, is on the Ministers side, as in such case Ragobah and His Adherants must be strongly infatuated to run immediately into His hands and thereby give up everything to the Ministers ; and indeed the behaviour of the Ministers confirm my supposition ; for they have to-day, since this news, removed everything from the Palace to Singur Fort, besides altering their Resolution of going all to Join Trimbuck Row Mamma, as they determined the 11th ; for Hurry Punt only is now to go, apprehensive, I suppose, of Troubles this way, were they all to go.

*Letter to To*  
*Bombay*

THE HON'BLE WILLIAM HORNBY, ESQR.

President & Governor &ca Members of

the Select Committee, at BOMBAY.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

My last address waited on Your Honor &ca the 10th and this is principally to acquaint You I this moment have learnt Letters were last Night received from Camp which bring Intelligence that Ragobah, having received an Acct of the Conduct of the Ministers, three Hours before their Party in the Army, immediately Marched off as fast as possible without [*with*] Eight or Ten Thousand Men, and taken possession of Gootes, a Fort belonging to Morah Row Gorparah. It is Confidently Asserted here Morah Row is in the League with the Ministers ; which, if true, will put

*Raghoba*  
*warned in*  
*time*

an immediate end to the Dispute, but I am apt to believe the Contrary; for I am Assured Ragobahs Escape has thrown the Party into much Consternation; which seems pretty plain from their having to day removed everything that remained in the Palace to Singur Fort.

Morabah Furneese is now at Juneer [*Junnar*], a Fort *Maratha* about 30 Coase to the Northward of Poonah; but I cannot *generals* Yet learn what part He means to take in the Present Contest. It was Determined some days ago that Sacaram, Nanna and Hurry Punt should all Join Trimbuck Row Mamma and Sabajee; but this late news regarding Ragobah has, I am told, made them alter their Resolution; and Hurry Punt only is to go.

It is altogether out of my Power to inform Your *Political* Honour &ca with the least precision which way Affairs *outlook* will go; everything seems now to depend on Morah Row Gorparah; if He is, as it is said, with the Ministry, the whole, as before observed, is at an end; but should he be stanch to Ragobahs Cause, much Trouble will most probably ensue and the whole Country be thrown into confusion; for in that Case the Neighbouring Powers, though they at present Appear Neuter, may be induced, some of them thro' Political motives, to Join Ragobah, which, tho' it may not be the means of Reinstating Him, yet it most [*must*] likely give the Governmet such a shock as to take a long time (if ever) to get the better of.

Poonah, 13th February, 1774.

I am with Respect,  
HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,  
Your most Obdt, Humble St.

## 1774. Secret and Political Department Diary.

February.

*Poona Letter* **Monday 21st.** The following letter came to hand [by] Pattamar from the Resident at Poonah.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*Scarcity of news* My last was under the 13th, and I should have addressed your Honour &ca again a day or two ago, could I have procured any certain intelligence; but that is now almost impossible, as the Ministers have blocked up all the Roads in order to seize all letters; and I have reason to think they sometimes forge letters to make things appear in their favour; for so strict is the watch they keep that, notwithstanding I have two sepoys and a pair of Cossids with Ragobah, yet neither the one or the other have been able to come to give me any information how affairs are in camp.

*Military situation* Since Ragobah has separated himself, as mentioned in my last, He has been joined by many more Troops from the Army; and by the latest advises that can be credited [Raghoba] was on the Banks of the Hugrey near Moha<sup>1</sup> with upwards of 25,000 Men and only a small distance from Vamon Row and that part of the Army (about 3,000) in the interest of the Ministry. Morah Row Gopa Row is encamped separate from both parties, and at present acts the part of a mediator between Vamon Row and Ragobah; but its believed by every person, except those whose Interest it is to report contrary, that Morah Row is inclined to the latter.

1. The river Hagari is a tributary of the Tungabhadra. Moha is not to be found on any map; it is probably situated near Rayadrug.

It is said Ragobah means to proceed towards Scirry *Raghoba's* Fort<sup>1</sup> (to which place Tippoo Sahib is advancing) to endeavour to obtain Heyders assistance; and as Ragobah now seems entirely to have escaped the snares laid by his enemies for seizing him in his own Camp, it is likely, by the support he may obtain from foreign Powers, he will be able to make a very formidable stand against the Ministry, of *Ministers'* which they appear by their behaviour to be very apprehensive; for they have even taken their very Gods (those that are decorated with Jewells, Gold and Silver) out of the Pagodas, and carried them into Forts, and are raising Men as fast as they can, but which they do very slowly, owing to all the Sepoys in these parts having already taken service.

Trimbuck Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello are yet *Waiting* near Beer [*Bhir*], and the Women and Ministers (except *policy* Morabah who is at Juneer) continue still at Pronder [*Purandhar*]. The Nizam is in the Field near Gulbarga with a numerous Army, but has not declared himself either way, and seems to me to be waiting, more with an intention of putting into Execution some scheme of his own, than to support either party. Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker, as I before informed your Honor &ca, have not yet moved this way, and, I am told, mean to evade coming till they see how things go.

Very late this Evening Naron Row Appah sent for me *Mostyn* to the Durbar, and requested to know if I had acquainted *at the* your Honor &ca, with the late change in the Government; *darbar* to which I answered I had informed you the Women had been carried to Pronder, and that all Orders were issued by the Ministry in Gungabays name and Naron Rows Sicca; and at the same time said I supposed they had done



the same. He replied they had not yet, but meant to dispatch a letter for that purpose tomorrow ;<sup>1</sup> and [he] also told me the Nizam, Madjee Scindy, Tookajee Holker, with a vast number of other Officers, had acknowledged Gungabay. I cannot discover any other motive for Naron Appahs sending for me thus publickly but that he meant to draw from me an acknowledgement of the present Government ; but by answering him in general terms I evaded giving him the concession he seemed to wish for ; and I imagine the letter to the Hon'ble the President is with the same view.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 17th February, 1774.

*Poonah*      **Thursday 24th.** Came to hand the following letter  
*Letter* from the Resident at Poonah.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*No news*      Since my last to your Honor &ca, of the 17th, the  
*from* pair of Pattamars and one of the Sepoys mentioned therein  
*camp* have arrived from Camp ; but as they left it before the  
news of the Revolution reached it, they brought no new  
*Letter* intelligence ; by them I received a letter from Ragobah (in  
*from* answer to one I wrote to him in October), enclosing sundry  
*Raghoba* orders for the delivery of two Vessels and a letter to Naron  
Row Appah, the Governor, but the late change has rendered  
them of no use.

*Military*      Yesterday letters were received in eight days from  
*situation* Ragobahs Camp, when things were situated nearly as I  
before informed you. Morah Row still encamped between  
the two parties. The Ministerial party is increased to  
35,000 Men, and Ragobah has been joined by some of the

1. Under date of Saturday, the 12th February, 1774, the Bombay Government record to have received a letter from Gangabai, informing them of the revolution. See Saturday, the 12th March, 1774, immediately after Mostyn's letter.

Poligar<sup>1</sup> (Chittledroog<sup>2</sup> and Rydroog<sup>3</sup>) people ; but whether they will be true to him seems a doubt. The above advices mention that Ragobah has wrote the Nizam for assistance, but do not say anything of Tippoo Sahibs coming.

Trimbeck Row Mamma has wrote Sacaram Bapoo, *Trimbak &ca, Ministers, approving their conduct, and also acquaint- Rao* ing them that, agreeable to their desire, he and Sabajee Bouncello are going with all speed to join Vamon Row &ca against Ragobah, and that he will engage to bring over both Morah Row Goparah and all the other Polihgars to their Interest when he arrived beyond the Cristnah.

Letters received last night from Guzerat, bring Intelli- *Fateh* gence that Futtu Sing and Govind Row have had a battle, *Singh* in which the former was defeated and fled with a few *defeated* horse, leaving his baggage to his brother.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 21st February, 1774.

### March.

**Thursday 3rd.** Received [by] Pattamar from Poonah *Poonah* the following letter from the Resident. *Letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

I last had the pleasure of addressing your Honor &ca *Raghoba* the 21st. And this is purposely to acquaint you letters nine *on his* days from Ragobahs Camp bring Intelligence that He *way to* continued his March towards Scirry Fort [*Sira*] for two or *Poonah*

1. Poligars, petty chiefs in Southern India.

2. Chitaldroog, a district in the north of Mysore State. When the Vijayanagar empire arose, the Chitaldroog State was founded in subordination to it, in the fifteenth century. It continued an important power till, after more than one effort, it was finally subjugated by Haidar Ali in 1799. (*Imp. Gaz. of India, X, 291*)

3. Rayadrug, a south-eastern taluk of Bellary District. (*Imp. Gaz. of India, XXI, 275*)

three days ; but in that time having been joined by a number of the Ministerial Party with Sundry Pattans and Poligars, He was persuaded by Morah Row Goparah to face about towards Poonah ; and when these advices came away, he had passed the Tungabadrah on his way hither ; and it's said his Army was So numerous as to enable him to dispatch Ramchunder Gunnis a Head with twenty five thousand horse ; but whether against Trimback Row Mamma or this place is uncertain.

*The Nizam* The same Advices mention the Nizam is to meet Ragobah on the Banks of the Cristnah, and that Tippoo Sahib, as I before informed you, is also marching to join him ; in consequence of which, and Heyder's having paid Ragobah twenty five Lack of Rupees, the latter has given up to the former the Forts and Districts of Mudgarry Huscootah and Chonderdroog.<sup>1</sup>

*Military preparations* Morabah, it's said, is again Reconciled to the Ministry, and is tomorrow to set out from Juneer, as Sacaram &ca also mean to do from Pronder, in order to join and take the field with Trimback Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello, who are not yet advanced much beyond Tulsapore [*Tulja-pur*]. Notwithstanding Ragobah's numerous Army and the *Mostyn's suspicion* assistance he is in hope of obtaining from the Nizam and Heyder, I am inclined to think from the inactivity of the Ministry there is some Treachery in the case, and that in the time of danger Ragobah will find many, who now profess themselves his friends, to be his Enemies.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 27th Feby, 1774.

*Poona Letter* **Saturday 12th.** Received a letter from the Resident at Poonah as follows.

1. Mudgere, Hoskote, Chandragiri.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

The 27th Ultimo I wrote your Honor &ca ; and now I do myself that pleasure to acquaint you that letters have been received from Ragobahs Camp in eight days, which bring intelligence of his having recalled Ramchunder Gunnis, and that the Army advanced as far as Gulgullah (*Gulbarga*) on their way to Meritz [*Miraj*], from whence, it's said, they mean to march along the banks of the Cristnah to Setterah ; but it is supposed they will be met, before they reach that place, by the Ministerial Army under Trimbeck Row Mamma and Sabajee Bouncello. *impending battle*

The same account mentions that Morah Row Gorparah has taken leave of Ragobah and returned to his own Country, and that Tippoo Sahib has not yet joined him, but Heyder has sent to his assistance 4,000 Musketeers. The Pretinam,<sup>1</sup> a principal person of the Ministers party in camp, is made Prisoner by Ragobah, and Vamon Row has been obliged to retire. *Raghoba's army*

The Nizam, instead of meeting Ragobah, as was expected, has sent Taver Jung and Shaick Abram Caun Downsaw, two of his most principal Officers, to join Trimbeck Row Mamma, and has promised to meet him himself, which it is most likely he will do, as Hurry Punt set out from Pronder [*Purandhar*] some days ago with Money to pay Mammas Army and a very considerable present in Jewells for the Mogul. *Nizam's treachery*

Since my last the Ministers have changed their resolutions of joining the Army, and none but Hurry Punt is gone ; the rest remain as before advised. *The Ministers*

The two contending parties now draw near each other ; and untill they meet, nothing can be depended on ; for it's impossible to say with the least degree of certainty who *Hesitating opportunists*

1. See *Diary*, October 5, 1773.

are for or against Ragobah, till the affair comes to be decided by the sword, as there are but few Indians that Oaths or friendship are strong enough to make staunch to any party, when it is made their interest to be otherwise.

[Sgd. *Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 8th March, 1774.

*Letter from Gangabai* Translate of a letter from Gungabay, Naron Rows widow, to the President.  
After Compliments.

Your Honor already knows what has happened here. I am now at the Fort of Poorander [*Purandhar*]. Sacram Baugwant and Ballajee Janarden Furneese are with me. All the Officers of the Army, as also Sabajee Bouncello, Trimback Row, Vissanath, Holker, Scindia &ca with Officers of every degree are under my orders. The Nizam, Ally Caun, maintains friendship with this Sircar, and I have no difference with him, all which I take the liberty to acquaint your Honor.

*Bombay Letter* **Monday 21st.** Signed and Dispatched [*by*] pattamar the following letter to Poonah.

To

THOMAS MOSTYN, Esqr.

Resident at the Mahratta Durbar,

POONAH.

Sir,

*Request for news* The several letters you have addressed us, to that dated the 8th instant, have been duly received ; and we direct that you continue to communicate every certain intelligence you can obtain relative to the designs and motions of Ragobah and of the Ministry at Poonah ; as the orders, *Raghoba's orders* you mention in your letter of the 21st ultimo to have obtained from Ragobah for the release of two vessels taken by Morattahs, may possible be of some use for effecting the

return of them, we direct that you send them hither with accurate Translates of them by the very first Opportunity.

[Sgd. William Hornby]

Bombay Castle, 21st March, 1774.

**Wednesday 30th.** Received [by] Pattamar from *Poona*  
Poonah the following letter from the Resident. *Letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Late last night I was honoured with your demands of *Reference*  
the 21st ; nothing material having occurred to render neces- *to letters*  
sary troubling your Honor &ca is the reason I have not  
addressed you since the 8th instant, tho' I have not failed  
to advise the President of every step the different armies  
have taken and other incidents, as they came to my know-  
ledge and could be depended upon.

Agreeable to my last, Ragobah continued his route, *Raghoba*  
untill he came some coase on this side Meritz [Miraj] where *near*  
he halted some days, during which Trimbuck Row Mamma *Miraj*  
with Sabajee Bouncello by forced marches advanced  
before him, the Nizam keeping some distance behind. By *Raghoba*  
advices received last night, Ragobah has retreated three *retreats*  
Coase to the Southward of Meritz, Mamma keeping his  
station before him, and the Nizam a few Coase to the East-  
ward.

This movement of Ragobah has given the Ministers *Retreat*  
some credit, and they have not failed to make use of it by *explained*  
giving out his fears induced him to it ; tho' from the best  
information I can procure, the want of water, with the  
confined situation he was encamped in (being both woody  
and hilly), made it necessary ; for in case he had been  
attacked and beat, he would have found it difficult to  
escape ; whereas he is now on an open plain on the Roads  
leading to Vizappur [Bijapur] and Callapore [Kolhapur] ;  
and if a battle ensues, and he is defeated, it is supposed he  
will take one of these Roads ; but which is uncertain ;

some think the former, being induced thereto by the Nizam who is thought to be privately his friend ; others the latter, from thence into the Concan, and so to Basseen, that Fort having refused to obey Gungabays Orders.

*Plunder* The foregoing advices also mention the Nizam and Bouncello had plundered some places belonging to this Government ; and the former carried off several Bramin women, notwithstanding all the Remonstrances Mamma could make ; and Ragobah, it is said, has given the plunderers of his Army, called Pindares, the liberty of pillage ; this has laid desolated all the country round Meritz [*Miraj*].

*Battle delayed* From Trimbuck Row Mamma not having yet attacked Ragobah, he must doubt the attachment of the Nizam or Sabajee ; and indeed [*I*] should think it cannot be the interest of either to have the dispute specially declared ; for setting aside any further views they may have, their present advantages are too beneficial to lose ; the former, I am told, a Lack every day he marches, and 25,000 every halt ; the latter, 20,000 Rs. p. day ; and as the accession must in a great measure depend on them, it may be some time before matters are brought to an issue.

*The Ministers* The Ministers continue as advised in my last ; they some days ago marched a body of Horse into the Concan, and the Gauts to be stopped ; I am informed they have since recalled the greatest part, and the Passes are again free.

*Raghoba's orders* Agreeable to your directions, Enclosed you will please to receive the two Orders and Translate : one for the delivery of the vessel carried into Anjenwell [*Anjanvel*], the other for the delivery of a Boat to Byramjee Homjee.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 27th March, 1774.

Translation of two Orders from Ragonath Badje Row to Trimbuck Row Naique.

After compliments.

I have been informed that the Year before last a vessel belonging to Mr. George Perret, a Bombay merchant, was seized at Anjenwell Bar, for the delivery of which an Order was given from the Sircar to the Amildar or Officer there, when he delivered her without stores, for the want of which and an Anchor she drove on shore and was broke. I therefore send you this letter to direct that the Vessel and Stores be delivered, agreeable to the former Order. I have no more to add.

Dated the 3rd Jilcand.

After compliments.

I have been acquainted that an Order was given some time ago by this Sircar to the Officer or Comovizdor<sup>1</sup> for the delivery of a vessel of about 200 candies to Byramjee Homjee in lieu of his Grab, but which the merchant has not yet received. I therefore send you this letter to direct that the vessel of 200 Candies be delivered conformable to the former Order ; but she must be old. I have no more to add.

Dated the 2nd Zilcand.

**Thursday 31st.** Received [by] Express Pattamar from *Poona*  
Poonah the following letter from the Resident. *Letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

My last waited on your Honor &ca the 27th ; and this *Raghoba's*  
is solely dispatched to advise you the intelligence arrived *victory*  
here this morning that Ragobah, as it's supposed by the  
Nizams Advice, five days ago decamped all of a sudden by  
night, and left all his heavy baggage and Cannon &ca  
standing on the ground where he had been encamped, the  
better to have the appearance of a flight. Trimbuck Row

1. Kamarvisdar, a manager, especially the head officer of a district, often under the Maratha Government he was merely a farmer of the revenue and not resident in his district. Later, the head officer of a taluka, or mamlatdar, (Whitworth). Here the word means a revenue officer.



Mamma with the Ministerial Army pursued him the next morning, when Ragobah unexpectedly faced about and attacked Mamma's Army, which he totally defeated; and Mamma, after receiving several wounds, was taken prisoner with Hurry Punt.<sup>1</sup>

*Panic in Poona* Your Honor &ca may easily imagine what a situation the Ministers are in, when the Army in which they placed their sole confidence has been thus totally Routed. Should the Nizam have no views of his own, independent of Ragobah's Interest, the affair cannot but turn out much in his favour. It is however impossible to determine what may attend it, till it's known what steps are taken in consequence; of which I shall inform you as soon as I can learn with any certainty.

The town of Poonah is so thunderstruck with this news that Brahmins, Merchants &ca are indiscriminately flying from thence with what little Effects they have left, as fast as they can procure Horses, Oxen and Carts to carry them away.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 29th March, 1774.

April.

*Poonah Letter* **Thursday 7th.** Received [by] Express Pattamars from Poonah the following letter from the Resident.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

*Raghoba's progress* The 29th Ultimo I advised your Honor &ca that the Ministerial Army was dispersed and their General, Trim-buck Row Mamma, made prisoner; since when Ragobah marched to Punderpore [*Pandharpur*], where he raised considerable contributions, and by accounts received this evening is advanced as far as Carrandash<sup>2</sup> within fifty

1. Hari Pant was not taken prisoner; see the next letter.

2. Probably Koregaon, where Raghoba killed the Peshwa's general, Pethe—information supplied by Mr. G. S. Sardesai.

Coase of Poonah. It is reported in Town he has made prisoner one of the Nizams Nephews, who was coming from Hyderabad to join the Uncle with 500 Horse.

Hurry Punt Furkia was not taken prisoner in the last *Hari* engagement, as was at first said, but escaped with difficulty, *Pant* and has since assembled the remains of Mammas Army, with which he has joined the Nizam and Bouncello, who still publickly profess themselves friends to the Ministry ; but many people doubt if they are sincere, and think they have views of their own ; however be their intentions what they will, they cannot conceal them much longer, as they now are at Punderpore, which is not above 20 coase from Ragobah.

Morabah Furneese came to his garden just without the *Moroba* town the 2nd, and the same night Nana Furneese came to *and Nana* him from Pronder [*Purandhar*], and persuaded him to go with him thither the next morning ; and it is supposed they mean to send him to take the command of the remains of the Army formerly headed by His Father-in-law, Mamma.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 4th April, 1774.

**Wednesday 13th.** The following letter came to hand *Poona*  
[by] Express Pattamars from Poonah. *Letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

My last Respects bore date the 4th ; and this is dis- *Raghoba*  
patched express, purposely to acquaint you that very late *asks for*  
last night a person came to me in behalf of Ragobah to *help*  
know if the Hon'ble Company would assist him with men  
and money, men as could be spared as far as Ten Thousand,  
and money, Fifty Lack ; if the whole could not be paid at  
once, as fast as it would be raised. And for Security he is  
willing to make over any lands along the Sea Coast that  
might be most agreeable, such as Guzerat, the country

about Saringham<sup>1</sup> and the Islands near Bombay, until the Company be fully re-imbursed their Expenses and money they might advance. And should your Honor &ca approve of the proposed alliance with Ragobah, he in consideration thereof will cede for ever to the Company a certain portion of Territory ; the amount and situation, he desires, you will point out ; and he will then declare if he can accept of the terms ; which should he do, he will send a person to Bombay with proper Sunnuds, orders and powers to negotiate the whole with your Honor &ca. And as Ragobah will in a great measure form his future movements by your resolutions, I am requested to procure your answer as soon as possible, which I therefore hope you will not delay a moment in sending me.

*Political survey* Thinking it necessary your Honor &ca should be acquainted with the situation and views of each of the contending parties and the Foreign powers concerned in this quarrel, to enable you the better to form judgment on affairs in general, I shall give you a statement of each from the more authentick information I can procure.

*Raghoba* Ragobah, tho' at the head of 40,000 Men, has since my last retreated towards the River Gungah [*Godavari*], and means to go to Mular Fort (which with the district of Buglan<sup>2</sup> is in his hand) there to lodge his Family and Prisoners. The late conduct of his [*retreat*] hurt his credit much ; and I cannot account for it in any other manner than his apprehensions of the fidelity of some of his Officers, whose families are in the hands of the Ministers, and his want of money, both which are probable from his Officers as above mentioned ; but was your Honor &ca to assist

1. Seringham is an island in the river Cauvery near Trichinopoly.

2. Mulher fort commands Baglan, a taluka in Nasik District.

him, the credit he would gain in the country by your alliance would, I imagine, soon bring him both men and money sufficient to enable him to cope with his Enemies, and also induce the Forts to obey his orders.

Most of the Forts appear to be neuter ; and tho' there *The Forts*  
 is reason to believe the Killedars will neither obey one party or the other till the dispute is decided, yet the greatest part of them have by letters acknowledged Gungabay and the Ministers, who have money at command and also the remains of Mammass Army, which does not exceed 15,000 Men, under Hurry Punt, who is joined by the Nizam and Sabajee Bouncello, the former with 30,000, *The Nizam and Sabaji Bhonsle*  
 and the latter with 10,000 Men; both [of] whom profess themselves at present friends to, and act for, the Ministry, and are not in pursuit of Ragobah ; but notwithstanding which, it is generally believed and almost beyond a doubt they have views of their own, and therefore will not in a hurry put an end to the dispute ; however was their [*there*] any likelihood of Ragobahs succeeding, they would undoubtedly, strenuously support the Ministers against him ; and [*they would*] as readily unite with Ragobah were the Ministers in a way of getting the better; as it seems not to be their intention, and it certainly is not their interest, the Brahmin Government should ever be again re-established ; as the Nizam and Bouncello have so long avoided *Ministers plan*  
 coming to an engagement with Ragobah, the Ministers begin to see into their views, and fear the consequences, and have now come to a determination of taking out the Rajah, in hopes that the powerful Morattah Officers, who have hitherto either stood neuter or sided with Ragobah, may by this means be induced to embrace their cause ; but as their Resolutions continually vary with circumstances, it is probable they may adopt other expedient (as this is a dangerous one), before they put it into execution.

*Mostyn's* Should your Honor &ca think proper to grant the  
*advice* Hon'ble Companys assistance to Ragobah, it will be absolutely necessary for you immediately to favour me with Orders to quit Poonah; for if the Ministers were to get the least Item of your being even inclined that way, I am confident they would instantly make me prisoner in some Fort as an Hostage.

*Trimbak* Trimbuck Mamma died a few days ago of his wounds  
*Rao* in Ragobahs Camp, and Morabah Furneese has returned to Juneer [*Junnar*] to be present at the ceremony of burning Mammass Wife, which as soon as over, he means to go with the other Ministers to Settarah.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah.

*Bombay* **Sunday 17th.** Signed & dispatched [*by*] Pattamar  
*Letter* to Poonah the following letter to the Resident.

*Refusal of* Having very maturely considered your letter of the  
*money* 10th Instant, We direct that you acquaint Ragobahs Agent, in reply to the proposals he has made in behalf of his Master, that it is totally out of our power to furnish any sum of money whatever; but provided we can adjust to  
*Supply of* our satisfaction such preliminaries as are necessary to be  
*men* previously stipulated for the benefit and advantage of the Company, we may be induced to assist him with a body of Forces, consisting of so far as 500 Europeans & a Battalion  
*Conditions* of Seepoys, provided he can pitch upon some means for their joining his Army with safety, & will not only remit a sum of money hither, sufficient to put them in motion, but will also point out the measure in which they are to be paid so long as they continue in his service; for settling these several particulars Ragobah may send hither a person vested with proper powers in his behalf.

*Request* Advise us as soon as possible of what you may suppose  
*for news* will be the result of this business, and continue to communi-

cate every certain intelligence you can procure of the designs of the contending parties.

[Sgd. William Hornby &ca]

Bombay Castle, 17th April, 1774.

**Wednesday 20th.** At noon received [by] Pattamar *Poona Letter* from Poonah the following letter from the Resident.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

This is purposely dispatched to acquaint your Honor *Ganga-bai's son* &ca that this evening News arrived in town of Gungabays being delivered of a Son.

As this may in some measures affect Ragobahs cause, and induce many that have hitherto been staunch to leave him, and in consequence interfere with your resolutions, I do not delay a moment to inform you thereof.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 18th April, 1774.

At night the following letter was received from Poonah *Poona Letter* [by] Express Pattamar.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

My letter of the 10th informed your Honor &ca of *Raghoba's* Ragobahs retreat towards the Gungah [*Godavari*]; since *progress* when he has marched within a few coase of Aurungabad, on which District and Jalnapore he raised considerable contributions, & by the latest accounts seems to bend his march to Brampore [*Burhanpur*]. The Nizam, Bouncello *Raghoba's enemies* & Hurry Punt are following Ragobah, but at so great a distance that there is very little likelihood of their bringing him to an engagement for some time. The Ministers now seem inclined to defer taking out the Rajah, till after Gungabay is brought to bed; and if it should be a boy, may probably drop all thought of it.

By advices lately received from the Carnatic, Heyder *Haidar Ali* Ally is reducing as fast as possible all the Country belong- ing to the Morattahs on the other side the Cristnah, and

is himself attacking Scirry; and his son, Tippoo Sahib, Gurramcondah: two of the strongest Forts in that Quarter, which most likely will soon surrender, as they can expect no assistance from hence.

*News from Hindustan* Yesterday letters were received from Hindostan, which mention, that the King, Sujah Dowlah, his Vizier, had met at Agra, where their joint Forces amounted to one hundred Thousand Men, exclusive of forty thousand of the Viziers people, who, at the time this Express came away, were advanced as far as the plains of Jansey [*Jhansi*].

*Placating the Sidi* The Ministers, having received information of the Sciddees plundering two or three villages, have in consequence come to a resolution of sending him a Present of a Sirpaw, Elephant and twenty five thousand Rupees, and have also some thoughts of giving up the Reswads,<sup>1</sup> which Sciddee Rahman, soon after his getting<sup>1</sup> Jingarrah, [*Janjira*] disputed with Naran Row.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 17th April, 1774.

*Poonah Letter* **Sunday 24th.** Came to hand [*by*] Express Pattamar from Poonah a letter from the Resident as follows.

HON'BLE Sir & SIRS,

*Raghoba's agent* My last address waited on your Honor &ca the 18th inst; and yesterday I was favoured with your commands of the 17th inst. I immediately acquainted Ragobahs Agent with your Resolution, who thereon told me he was clear it was impossible his Master could advance any money whatever, or indeed to do anything else on the terms you mention, as it was money he stood most in need of, more than men, for want of which his people daily left him; and to maintain those that were with him he was necessitated to plunder his own country. But notwithstanding the im-

1. Probably from the Persian *rasad*. See *Diary*, March 13, 1772, note.

probability of Ragobahs accept [*acceptance*] of your determination in his favour, he would inform him with it, and give me his answer when he obtained it.

Before Ragobahs man took leave, I requested he would *Raghoba's* tell me the real views and intentions of his Master ; and *difficulties* from him I learn that the Morattah Officers, who still side with Ragobah, finding the distress he is drove to for want of cash, have frequently entreated him to risk a battle, and even threat'ned that, unless he will do it, they will leave him ; but nevertheless he is so apprehensive of their fidelity that he dare not face his Enemies, and by the *Raghoba's* latest advices is making the best of his way to Brampore *plans* [*Burhanpur*] in hopes of being joined by Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker from Hindostan ; should they come, and those with him remain staunch, he has some thoughts of retiring into that part of Berar in the possession of Moodajee Bouncello, there to sit down till the Rains make the Mogul quit the field, when he means to return this way ; but in case of being forsaken by his own Officers, and Madajee Scindy and Tookajee Holker do not, as he has been flattered, join him, he will in this dilemma be under the necessity of going to Sujah Dowlah with whom he has a brother-in-law that enjoys a considerable command. But as this conduct of the Morattah Officers was previous to Gungabays being delivered of a son, it is possible, on the news of this event, most of them may leave Ragobah and join the Ministers ; from the whole of the *Money* forgoing there appears to me not the least likelihood of *needed* Ragobahs coming to any agreement without a very considerable sum of money can be advanced.

The Nizam some days ago halted, and demanded of *The* the Ministers the Jaghir promised him for his assistance ; *Nizam* and on their delay in giving him an answer, he declared he would interfere no further in the dispute ; on which



Crust Row Balal was dispatched to him from Pronder [*Purandhar*]; he has satisfied him for the present; and in consequence he has marched, and is now three coase on the Eastward of Aurungabad.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 21st April, 1774.

May.

*Poonah Letter* **Friday 6th.** Arrived Pattamars from Poonah with the following letter from the Resident.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*Military situation* Conformable to my last, which waited on your Honor &ca the 21st Ult, Ragobah marched to Brampore [*Burhanpur*], near which city he still continues, raising money and waiting an answer from Tookajee Holker and Madjee Scindy, by which he will be principally guided in his future movements. The Nizam, Bouncello and Hurry Punt are to the Northwards of Aurungabad in pursuit of Ragobah, but at so great a distance there is very little probability of their coming up with him.

*Gangabai's son* Gungabays son was yesterday named Mada Row Naron; and Morabah Furneese went to Pronder [*Purandhar*], where they have determined that him or Nanna shall in a few days go to Setterah to receive the Sirpaw of Rajah, in the young princes name.

*Changing camp* Vissajee Punt and Chintoo Whittel have left Ragobah, and are come to Pronder on pretence of accommodating matters between him and the Ministers, but mean not to return. The Nimalker and Pallanker,<sup>1</sup> two considerable Morrattah Officers, also made the same plea to join the Ministers.

1. The Nimbalkar is the ruler of Phaltan, one of the Satara jaghirs feudatory to the Raja of Satara; the Patanker is a Sardar of Patan, a taluka of Satara District.

Scirry has surrendered to the Forces of Heyder, and *Haidar* it's thought Currumcondah will soon fall with MdGurry<sup>1</sup> *Ali* which he has lately invested.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 2nd May, 1774.

**Tuesday 10th.** Received [by] Pattamar from Poonah *Poonah* the following letter from the Resident. *Letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

My last respects waited on your Honor &ca the 2nd *Raghoba* Instant ; and this is principally to inform you that the *deserted* greatest part of Ragobahs Forces have left him ; some of whom have joined the Ministerial Army, and others have retired into Sundry places. He himself by a letter in eight *Raghoba's* days from Brampore, after having lodged most of his *plans* baggage in that City, has advanced twelve coase on the other side of it with about 7,000 Horse who still adhere to him. But what his future intentions are is not yet known. Moodajee Bouncello, who has been with Ragobah ever since he first took the field, has now also left him and, it's said, means to retire into his own country.

The Nizam, Sabajee Bouncello and Hurry Punt are *Poonah* about 20 or 30 coase on this side Brampore ; and whether *forces* they will now pursue Ragobah or return this way is uncertain.

Conformable to what I wrote you in my last letter, the *Ministers\** Ministers intend to set out from Pronder to morrow for *plan* Setterah to procure the Sirpaw of Peshwa for the young prince.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 7th May, 1774.

*Poona* Tuesday 17th. The following letter was received [by]  
*Letter* Pattamar from Poonah.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*Raghoba's* Conformable to my last of the 7th, Ragobah, after  
*retreat* having been forsaken by the greatest part of his Forces, continued his route towards the Nerbedah [*Narbada*] ; and by advices received this morning has crossed that River in his way to Indoor [*Indore*], in hopes of being assisted by Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker, both of whom have a number of troops on foot, and are encamped, the former near Indoor, and the latter at Ugen [*Ujjain*], the two places from whence they draw their Jaghirs. Tho' there is no doubt of their receiving Ragobah, yet it is uncertain whether they will effectually support him against the Ministry.

*Mudaji* Moodajee Bouncello left Ragobah with a view to  
*Bhonsle* induce Ismael Caun Ellisporewallah<sup>1</sup> to give him some help, and has since rejoined him with a re-inforcement of men.

*Poona* The Nizam with part of the Ministerial Army is near  
*forces* Brampore [*Burhanpur*], the remainder pursued Ragobah as far as Nerbedah ; but whether they will cross it after him or return this way is not known.

*Ministers* Sacaram Bappoo and Nanna Furneese are gone to  
*to Satara* Setterah to receive the Sirpaw for Gungabays Son ; and, it's said, have carried with them a Morattah boy, a distant relation of the Rajah, for him to adopt, as he is old and infirm, and has no son of his own. Morabah is returned to Poonah, supposed to be owing to a disagreement between him and Sacaram Bappoo, which, it is thought, will end in some disturbance between them.

*Moroba* Poonah, supposed to be owing to a disagreement between  
*dissents* him and Sacaram Bappoo, which, it is thought, will end in some disturbance between them.

*Gopikabai* Gopichabay has raised three thousand horse near Narsiah [*Nasik*], and is enlisting more, but with what view

I cannot discover. Butchabah and the troops that left *New* Ragobah have not been permitted to incorporate with *troops* Hurry Punt's Army, and they are now, to the number of twelve thousand, on their march to this place.

As everyone will make a present to the young prince *Present to* on his receiving the Sirpaw of Peshwah, I shall be under *be made* the necessity of doing the same; however your Honor &ca may rest assured I shall be as frugal as the occasion will admit.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 14th May, 1774.

**Saturday 28th.** Came to hand [by] Pattamar the *Poona* following letter from Poonah. *letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

My last respects waited on your Honor &ca the 14th *Holkar* Instant, and this is principally to advise you that Ragobah *and* is safely arrived at Indoor [*Indore*], where Tookajee Holker *Sindia* and Madjee Scindy have promised him assistance, & in consequence have blocked up the passes of the Gots to stop the progress of the Ministerial Army, and have wrote Hurry Punt that, if he advanced into their country, they will from that moment treat him as an enemy; since this, the Ministers have seized on all the Districts belonging to these Officers on this side the Nerbedah [*Narbada*]; which conduct, I should suppose, will only serve to exasperate them the more and bind them the firmer to Ragobah's Interest.

Hurry Punt, by the last advices, with the rear of the *Poona* Army is at Brampore [*Burhanpur*], near which place the *forces* Nizam and Bouncello are also encamped; the former is *The* now again demanding in the most peremptory manner the *Nizam's* immediate delivery of the Forts and Jaghir promised him *demands* for his assistance; and the Ministers, even were they inclined, cannot comply with the agreement, as the Officers

in possession will not give them up, yet it is impossible to say how the affair will terminate.

*Return from Satara* The Ministers are returned from Setterah, It's said, with the Sirpaw of Peshwah for Gungabays son; but the Rajah positively refused to adopt the boy they carried with them for that purpose.

[Sgd. *Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 24th May, 1774.

June.

*Poona letter* **Thursday 9th.** Received the following letter from the Resident at Poonah.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*Gangabai's son* Since the 24th ulto I have not done myself the pleasure to address your Honor &ca, as nothing has occurred to render my troubling you necessary; and this is mostly to acquaint you that Gungabays son, Mada Row, was some days ago invested by Sacaram Bappoo and Nanna Furneese with the Sirpaw of Peshwah, which they received from the Rajah; notwithstanding which, I have not yet made the present usual on these occasions, as the child and Ministers still continue at Pronder [*Purandhar*], where they would not wish to see me, as it is one of the strongest Forts they have; therefore I intend to defer doing it, till they come to Poonah.

*Poona forces* The Ministerial Army and their allies are nearly situated as mentioned in my last, and by the latest advices from Indoor [*Indore*], Ragobah with Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker (who by all accounts are determined to support him) were at the head of a very considerable body of men, and, it is said, have thoughts of coming this way before the Rains swell the Nerbedah [*Narbada*] so much as to make the passes of that river difficult. It is also reported that Ragobahs brother-in-law, Gopal Row Burway,

*Raghoba's friends*

and one Omrow Geera Gosein, with a reinforcement of men, are coming to join him from Hindostan.

Morabah remains still in Poonah and has not been to *Moroba* visit the young prince since his receiving the Sirpaw, tho' every one else of consequence has paid that compliment.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 5th June, 1774.

**Friday 24th.** Received the following letter from the *Poona* Resident at Poonah. *letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

My last respects waited on your Honor &ca the 5th Instant, since when no very material alteration has happened in affairs here.

The Ministers with Gungabay a few days ago left *Ganga-*Pronder [*Purandhar*], and went to Shashwer [*Sasvad*], a *bai* village two coase from it, where they intend to remain for the Rains; their conduct gives great room to suspect they are very apprehensive of [*some*] sort of treachery or other; for they have surrounded the house which Gungabay occupies with a wooden Rampart, and blocked up all passes leading to the place, except one at which they have placed a strong guard.

It is reported Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker *Raghoba's* have interfered between the two brothers, Govind Row and *friends* Futty Sing, and that matters are likely to be soon amicably adjusted between them thro' their mediation, when it is believed both will embrace Ragobahs cause; it is uncertain if Ragobah will endeavour to come this way immediately or defer doing it till after the Rains, tho' most people are inclined to think the latter, as he has not yet recrossed the Nerbedah [*Narbada*]. The Ministers give out every thing *The* is settled, and that he is coming to sit down at Aninwelly<sup>1</sup> *Ministers*

1. Anandvally is a village about 8 miles west of Nasik. It was originally named Chavand, but changed into Anandvalli after Raghoba's wife Anandibai.

on a small Jaghir, and has left the management of the Government to them; but notwithstanding all the assurance with which they put about this report, no one believes it, as their actions and words so widely differ; for independent of their fears for Gungabays and their own persons, as above set forth, they have within this day or two placed Chokies on the Houses of many that are with Ragobah.

*The Nizam* The Nizam has retired (it is imagined in disgust) to Bassen<sup>1</sup> into winter quarters, about 50 coase on this side Ellispore [*Ellichpur*], and Crust Row Balal has in consequence been dispatched to endeavour to pacify him and bring him back to Aurungabad, that he may be nearer the scene of action.

*Sabaji Bhonsle* The Ministers, since a Siccca has been struck [*in*] Mada Row Narons name, have invested Sabajee Bouncello with the Sirpaw of Sine Siab Subah, instead of Moodajees Son, Ragojee; a part of Sabajees forces are gone with the Nizam, but himself with the remainder are still with Hurry Punt, demanding Deriabay, Janojee's widow, who was some time ago made prisoner on a suspicion of having an intention to join Moodajee; no positive answer is yet given; but if she is not delivered up, there is reason to suppose it may create a difference between the Bouncello and the Ministers. Hurry Punt is ordered to quarter his Army for the Rains at Paroley<sup>2</sup> and other places in the District of Buglanah, and after which to return hither.

*Mudaji Bhonsle* Moodajee Bouncello left Ragobah some time ago, and having since joined Ismael Caun, the two in conjunction are plundering and laying waste part of Berar and Down-

1. Basim or Wasim, a District town in Berar.
2. Parola about 20 miles east of Dhulia.

shaws country, in order, I suppose, to draw off the latter from the Ministerial Army.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 20th June, 1774.

P. S. Since closing the above I very late at night *Calcutta* received the accompanying letter from Calcutta, and *letter* forward it to your Honor &ca accordingly.

Fort William,

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

We have the pleasure to inform you that on the 23rd *Rohillas* ulto the 2nd Brigade, under the command of Col. Alexr *defeated* Champion, which was sent to the assistance of the Vizier in the execution of his designs against the Rohilla<sup>h</sup>s,<sup>1</sup> gained a complete victory over their Army consisting of 40,000 Men. Hafez Rahmet, who commanded them, was killed together with one of his sons and 2,000 of his men, two of his sons are prisoners, and his Camp Baggage and Artillery taken; the loss on our side is very considerable.

[Sgd. Warren Hastings  
D. C. Dacres]

Fort William, 9th May, 1774.

July.

Thursday 7th. Came in Pattamars from Poonah with *Poona* the following letter from the Resident. *letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

On the 20th Instant I did myself the pleasure to *Flight to* address you last, and in my former letters I informed your *Puran-* Honor &ca of the difference that was likely to break out *dhar*

1. A detailed account of the battle of Miranpur Katra is given by Captain Macpherson. "I do suppose that their killed and wounded exceed 5,000. The enemy left on the field of battle 40 pieces of cannon; and it is declared by the best accounts that they had 40,000 men that day in the field." (Macpherson, *Soldiering in India*, 191-203)



among the ministry, tho' nothing publickly transpired till the 27th, when Sacaram Bapoo, Nanna Furneese, Gungabay &ca fled at midnight from Shashwer [*Sasvad*] to Pronder [*Purandhar*] in the utmost haste and confusion. It seems they were induced to this step by an extraordinary piece of intelligence they received by two different channels at the same time ; by a letter from Hurry Punt, enclosing one he has intercepted to Ragobah, they learnt that Morabah in conjunction with Baboojee Naique and Butchabah has laid a plan for seizing them ; at the very instant they got this letter, they were also informed that the whole was to be put into execution that very night ; this added wings to their flight, and made them forget the shame and disgrace such conduct would bring on their party in their fears for their safety. The finishing blow was left to Butchabah, who, finding it was discovered, retired towards Jezery.<sup>1</sup> Sacaram &ca have dispatched some horse after him to endeavour to catch him, as also to Barramooty<sup>2</sup> with a view to secure Baboojee Naique. Morabah yet continues in Poonah, tho' I was this morning told people are secretly coming into town to block up his house ; but as he has a number of men in and about this place, a sharp dispute may ensue. The whole affair is now public, therefore each party must exert itself, and soon [*the affair will end*] either in the imprisonment of Morabah and his followers, or in surrounding the others in Pronder.

*Hari* Hurry Punt, having left some of his forces behind, is  
*Pant* himself with about 10,000 horse coming this way as fast as he can ; and indeed the pretenery is already arrived within ten coase of Poonah. It is supposed the above conspiracy is the motive for Hurry Punt's coming with a force and

1. Jezery in Poona District. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XIV, 89)

2. Baramati a town 50 miles south-east of Poona. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, VI, 427)

making so much haste ; for at first, as I before informed your Honor &ca, it was determined he should come alone.

Sabajee Bouncello, having obtained his Sister-in-law, *Military* Deriabay, is retired towards Berar into winter quarters ; *situation* Crust Row Balal is returned from the Nizam, who has sent a Vackeel in order to treat for the delivery of the Forts &ca agreed on to be given for his assistance ; and [*in*] consequence of the Ministers having promised an immediate compliance, he is coming, conformable to their request, to remain for the Rains at Dalatabad.

Ragobah, agreeable to my last, remains near Indoor, *Raghoba* and I should imagine his coming this way or not will greatly depend on the turn affairs take here ; should his party succeed, it is probable himself or some of his forces may attempt coming.

By the latest intelligence from the Carnatic it is said *Fall of* Mud Gurry [*Mudgere*] had surrendered to Heyders force. *Mudgere*  
[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poona, 30th June, 1774.

**Saturday 23rd.** Received the following letter from *Poona*  
Poonah. *letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

My last respects waited on your Honor &ca the 30th *Raghoba* Ultro ; and this is mostly to advise you that by letters and other intelligence Ragobah, Madjee Scindy and Tookajee Holker crossed the Nerbedah on their way hither, ten days ago ; but accounts differ so widely respecting the force they bring, that it is almost impossible to tell with any certainty what number of troops they have with them ; for some say between forty and 50 thousand, and others again not even 15 [*thousand*] principally belonging to Scindy and Holker, who, Sacaram &ca pretend, are bringing Ragobah in order to adjust matters amicably between them and him.

*Moroba*

The Ministers remain nearly as I before informed you. Sacaram Bappoo and his party, finding Morabah and his party too strong for to attempt aught against them by force, they, it seems, have given up all thoughts of that kind and are now endeavouring to settle matters in a friendly manner ; but whether Morabah will listen to any proposals they may make him is to me very doubtful.

The Nizam with his Army is at Aurungabad, and it's said, Sacaram and his Colleague, Nanna, are now preparing different sunnuds for the Jaghirs and Forts promised the said Mogul for this assistance.

Hurry Punt is not yet arrived, but the Pretenery and Crust Row Balal are [*arrived*] ; after having visited Morabah two or three times, both went to Pronder where they will remain.

Ragobah has released Bursallat Jungs Son, whom he made prisoner soon after Mammas defeat, and he arrived some days since at Aurungabad.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 16th July, 1774.

August.

*Poonah  
letter*

**Wednesday 10th.** The following letter was this day received [*by*] Pattamar from the Resident at Poonah.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*Raghoba*

The last time I did myself the pleasure to address your Honor &ca under the 16th Ulto I informed you of Rago-bahs having recrossed the Nerbedah ; and since by very slow movements he is advanced within a few coase of Tappy [*Tapti*] ; but the different parties prevailing here

*The  
Ministers'  
allegations*

still spread so many reports respecting the force He brings, that it is yet out of my power to say with certainty what number of troops he has with him. Indeed Sacaram and those at Pronder do not scruple at this very time to

give out that he is coming in a manner a prisoner to them ; however no one credits what they say on this head ; for their shutting themselves up in a Fort and Ragobah having lately wrote the Killidars and Amildars of the different Purgannahs, as they value their lives, to obey no orders that may be given them by the Ministers, either with respect to giving up the forts or paying the arrears due on account of the last years revenue, seem strongly to contradict all they take so much pains to insinuate and endeavour to make the world believe.

The Ministers are just in the same situation as mentioned in my last. Morabah still remains quiet in Poonah. Sacaram and Nanna Furneese in Pronder [*Purandhar*] ; Hurry Punt is not yet arrived, but loiters away his time on the road hither, and appears not very anxious to pay a speedy obedience to the orders that have been given him for his return. Vamon Row und Anant Row Rastiah, however, some days ago arrived at Poonah, and the troops under their Command have been dispatched to Meritz [*Miraj*] and Waime [*Wai*], the districts belonging to these two officers, to endeavour to put a stop to the ravages of Bursallat Jungs forces, who have laid waste some part of these Purgannahs. *Military situation*

The preparations made by Sacaram and Nanna to comply with the Agreement made with the Nizam for his assistance was, it seems, only to amuse, as they have not yet issued any orders regarding it ; at which the Nizam is so much exasperated that he has displaced his Vizier, Ruchnah Dowlah, who made the treaty ; and threatens to cut off his head, if he does not find means to induce the Ministers to a speedy compliance. What Sacaram and Nanna will do to pacify the Subah and save the Vizier (who has hitherto been their grand support) is uncertain ; but Crust Row Balal, who has been in town for some time and was the *The Nizam's demands*

person that negotiated the Affair in behalf of the Ministry, has been sent for on a sudden to Pronder (tho' he is not yet gone) ; and it is supposed they will now in earnest endeavour to comply, as far as they can, with the terms agreed on with the Mogul.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 1st August, 1774.

*Reference*      **Friday 19th.** Received the following letter from the  
*to letter* Resident at Poonah.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

*Raghoba*      Nothing has lately occurred to render my troubling your Honor &ca necessary ; but as it is as long ago as the 1st Instant since I had the pleasure to write you, I now address you to inform you of the present posture of affairs.

*The*              Ragobah continues encamped in the same situation as  
*Bhonsles* mentioned in my last, and from the best information I can procure, does not intend to move till the beginning of the next moon.

I Long ago acquainted your Honor &ca of Moodajee Bouncellos withdrawing into his own country, and he is now near Ellispore [*Ellichpur*] with Ismael Caun, with 15,000 Horse. Sabajee is at Luckne Wady Gott with about the same number of Troops ; and Ismael Caun and the Nizam are endeavouring to make up matters between the two brothers.

*Hari*            Hurry Punt, as before adviced, is still seemingly in a  
*Pant* doubt what to do. The Nizam remains with all his Army

*The*            at Aurungabad, and has sent one Cullan Meah as his Vackeel  
*Nizam* to the Ministers to demand a categorical answer whether they will or will not comply with the agreement made with Rucknah Dowlah; and, it's said, has given him directions to return within a certain number of days, if they do not give him definite reply before that period.

Morabah is still in Poonah; and Sacaram and his *The* colleague, at Pronder, where it seems they are fortifying *Ministers* themselves in the best manner they can, and have issued orders to Vamon Row and Anant Row Rastiah to raise with all possible speed 25,000 Men. Thus all the powers and different parties concerned in this dispute are arming; but I apprehend nothing of very great consequence will be attempted by either side till Dessorah, which this year will not happen till two months hence.

[Sgd. Thomas Mostyn]

Poonah, 15th August, 1774.

September.

**Friday 2nd.** Came to hand [by] Pattamar from *Poona* Poonah a letter from the Resident as follows. *letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

My last respects waited on your Honor &ca the 15th *Raghoba's* Instant, since when Ragobah has altered his resolution of *army* remaining in Camp till the new moon, and has advanced to Teelner,<sup>1</sup> on the banks of the Tappey [*Tapti*], on his way, it is said, to Tanjore; and by a private letter from an Officer in the Ministerial pay, who commands the Vanguard of the few forces that remain with Hurry Punt, it is positively said (and it cannot be supposed he would exaggerate) that Ragobah has at least forty thousand good men.

The Nizam, Bouncello and Hurry Punt remain as *The* mentioned in my last; the Vackeel, sent by the former to *Nizam* Pronder [*Purandhar*], has received an answer from the Ministers (the purport I cannot with certainty discover), which, it seems, he has forwarded to his Master, and waits himself at Shahwer [*Sasvad*] for further directions.

1. Thalner on the banks of the Tapti, 28 miles north-east of Dhulia.

*Ministerial dissensions*

Instead of being steady and uniform in their council, the Ministers at Pronder seem to waver and be less resolute than usual on the approach of Ragobah. They one day propose a thing, and the next alter it; however for the present they have ordered some troops to assemble at Sciddee Tenk [*Sidh Tek*] under the command of Vissajee Punt Benewallah, and some days ago came to a resolution that Sacaram should head them and accompany two Vackeels, that lately arrived from Scindy and Holker, to Ragobah, in order to endeavour to accommodate matters; but notwithstanding this is their resolution, yet as Nanna and Sacaram, tho' embarked in one cause, appear throughout the whole to be mutually jealous of each other, it is possible it may not be carried into execution, as the former on second thoughts will be most likely afraid to trust the latter with his fate.

*Moroba*

Morabah remains still in Poonah, tho' he has been daily solicited by the contrary party to come to them at Pronder; yesterday they sent two Brahmins with whom Morabah is very intimate to endeavour to prevail on him to accompany them to Ragobah; after having seen him twice they returned to Pronder late at night; and it is said Morabah has promised to comply, provided Sacaram & ca agree to certain proposals he has made; but I should suppose, whatever these proposals may be, they are such as they cannot accept, and made only with a view to evade a flat denial; for after Morabah's late conduct there is little reason to think he ever will unite with those he has taken such pains to counteract.

*Mostyn's view*

As Ragobah is so far off, the Nizam is quiet at Aurungabad, the two Bouncellos in Berar, and the Ministry has yet no force to speak of, on foot. I still am of opinion that nothing of any consequence will happen till Dessorah.

The king of Tanjore's brother, who [*whom*] I mentioned to your Honor &ca under the 27th of December last, with one Narsing Row, formerly Duan to the king, arrived here some weeks ago; they appear to be at variance with each other—the brother charging the Duan with having run away with a large sum in money and jewels of the kings—and are endeavouring to obtain assistance thro' different channels, the former making application thro' Madah Row Judah Row (late vackeel of this Government with Mahomed Ally) to the Ministers at Pronder, and the latter by means of a person, I have reason to believe, in Ragobahs interest; of this Immediately informed the Select Committee at Fort St. George, and of the little or no probability of their obtaining relief, let their offers be ever so large, in the present divided situation of this Durbars affairs.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 28th August, 1774.

### October.

**Saturday 8th.** Came to hand [*by*] Pattamar from Poonah the following letter from Mr. Mostyn.

HON'BLE SIR & SIRS,

Notwithstanding nothing material has occurred here lately, yet as it's so long ago as the 28th of August since I had the pleasure to address your Honor &ca, I will not defer any longer to inform you of the present state affairs.

By the latest advices from Ragobahs Camp He was on the banks of the Tappy [*Tapti*], which situation, it is thought, he will not quit till Dessorah, which is the 10th of the next moon. His motives for remaining there so long, most people think is a desire of being reinforced with some troops from Govind Row and Moodajee Bouncello; the former of whom, it is confidently said, has promised to



supply him with a body of Men, and the latter to come himself to his assistance.

*S. Bhonsle* Sabajee Bouncello, as I some time ago advised you, is in Berar, at the head of a considerable body of horse ; but whether he has made up matters with his brother Moodajee, or what part he may take in future in this dispute is not certain. *Hari* Hurry Punt with what he has been able to keep *Pant* together of this Army is encamped at the foot of Ajenty *The* Gaut [*Ajanta Ghat*], and the Nizam is still at Aurungabad, *Nizam* where he is preparing again to take the field ; but how he will act is altogether a doubt, as nothing is to this day finally settled between him and the Ministers, his Vackeel being still at Pronder [*Purandhar*] ; however, I should conclude it is not his Interest heartily to embrace either side of the question, but endeavour to keep up the flame ; for it is by the intestine divisions of the Brahmins, and not by their union, the Nizam will be a gainer.

*Ministerial army* As I hinted to your Honor &ca, Sacaram going to meet Ragobah has been overruled ; but he and Nanna still talk of peace, tho' from many circumstances I am inclined to think it is only talk, and that there is not the least foundation for it ; for I cannot suppose, had they any hopes of an accommodation, they would [*have*] so repeatedly, as they have done, issued orders for raising Men, and have fixed on no less than three different places for the troops to rendez vous ; but their endeavours seem to be attended with little success owing to their want of publick cash, and not choosing to advance their own ; for tho' 25,000 were ordered to assemble, I am credibly informed they have not yet been able to get together more than four or five thousand, who are to proceed after Dessorah with the whole train of Artillery under the command of Bhim Row and his brothers, it is said, to join Hurry Punt.

Morabah, tho' hourly solicited to join the Ministers at *Moroba* Pronder, as yet obstinately persists in evading a compliance, declaring a neutrality, and still remains in Poonah to outward appearance quiet and disinterested in the present quarrel.

The Vackeels, sent some time ago by the Ministers to *Poona* Scindy and Holker, are on their return hither, accompa- *rumours* nied by two from them; the Ministers seem to have some distant idea that this embassy may terminate the affair; but for my part, as I before observed, I think there is little hopes of Ragobahs coming to any terms, when it was but a few days since some of his people forced five pieces of cannon from Asher Fort<sup>1</sup>—which Ragobah left at that place when he fled across the Nerbedah—and plundered the town, on the Killedars refusing to give them up by fair means.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 2nd October, 1774.

### November.

**Tuesday 1st.** The following letter was received from *Poona* the Resident at Poonah. *letter*

HON'BLE SIR & SIRs,

I last had the pleasure to address your Honor &ca the *Reference* 2nd instant, and now again take the liberty to trouble you *to letter* to inform you of what has occurred since that period.

Scindy and Holkers Vackeels, mentioned in my last, *Raghoba's* arrived some time ago at Pronder [*Purandhar*]; and it *proposals* seems made the following proposals in behalf of Ragobah: That the Sicca should continue in the boy Madarow Narons name, and Ragobah to conduct the Government, the Ministers to act in their different departments under him; but if they did not approve of this, then to divide the

1. Ashirgad near Burhanpur.

country conformable to the partition agreed to in Mada Rows time, which was that twenty lacks of Jaghir and about the same number of forts should be ceded to Ragobah, the remainder to be under their management.

*Ministers'*  
*reply* The Ministers by no means agree to either of these proposals, and have only offered fifteen lacks a year without any Fort for the maintenance of Ragobah and his son. The letter containing this was dispatched from Pronder twelve or fourteen days ago, tho' they have yet received no answer that I can learn; and as Ragobah since the receipt of it, by the latest and best advices, had crossed the Tappey [*Tapti*], and the Van of his Army advanced two or three days march on this side, the Ministry begin to think this embassy was never meant to put an end to the dispute by those that sent it, but only to amuse and prevent their raising any Men or framing alliance in order to face Ragobah.

*Ragoba's*  
*army* From the most authentick intelligence I can procure, Govind Row has promised Ragobah 10,000 Men; and Moodajee Bouncello and Ismael Caun, or one of his nephews, with about the same number, are on march to join him. Sabajee has not been able to accommodate matters with his brother Bouncello; and in consequence of all negotiations being at an end between them, is coming with 6,000 horse to assistance of Hurry Punt, who appears to be in a very disagreeable situation, his people, many of them, leaving his Camp daily for that of Ragobahs; and the Ministers, who for a long while have promised to reinforce him, have as yet only been able to levy about 4,000 Men.

*The*  
*Nizam* Their chief dependance seems to me to be upon the Nizam, who has for the present accepted of a Jaghir of twelve lacks of Rupees and a half a year and a promise of more, with Sundry Forts when affairs are settled; since which he has restored Ruchnah Dowlah to his former

credit and post, and again engaged to assist him : but as he is now quiet in Aurungabad and, it's thought, cannot leave that place till the end of Ramzan or next moon, I should conclude his succour (if he really intends it) will be too late, as the quarrel most likely will be brought to some sort of issue by that time.

From the whole of the foregoing, unless affairs take a *Raghoba's* very sudden turn in favour of the Ministers, your Honor *prospects* &ca may conclude it's more than probable Ragobah will succeed against them; but even was this to happen, the Government is so totally impoverished and divided that it's scarce possible for it ever to be reestablished in the power and tranquillity it formerly was.

I last night received a letter from the Select Committee at Fort William, and thinking the latter part of it of *Calcutta* consequence to our Hon'ble Masters affairs, enclose your *letter* Honor &ca a copy thereof.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 28th October, 1774.

The copy of a letter to the Resident from the Select Committee at Fort William, enclosed in the foregoing, as follows.

SIR,

We have received your favour of 2nd inst and duplicate of the 20th May, the original of which never came to hand, and are pleased to learn the troubles which have so long employed the attention of the Morattahs at home still subsist and are likely in their effects to prove so favourable to the quiet of their neighbours. *Reference to letter*

We have the pleasure to inform you that the Vizier in *Rohilla* conjunction with our forces took possession of the Fort of *defeat* Patter Gur<sup>1</sup> on the Inst.<sup>2</sup> without opposition, the enemy

1. Partabgarh in the United Provinces.
2. The date is not given.

having fled to the hills. Their success we consider as having completed the reduction of the Rohilla country lying between the Ganges and the Northern mountains ; and as we are advised also that a negotiation was on foot for an accommodation with Fyzoola Caun, the remaining chief of that people, we expect that this new acquisition will soon be peaceably secured to our Ally, the Vizier.

[*Sgd. Warren Hastings,*  
*William Aldressy,*  
*P. M. Dacres.*]

Fort William, 8th September, 1774.

*Bombay*      **Tuesday 29th.**

*letter* To,

THOMAS MOSTYN, Esq.  
at POONA.

Sir,

*Salsette*      We have received undoubted intelligence that the  
*threat-* Portuguese are fitting out a very respectable Armament at  
*ened* Goa, with intentions of acquiring with the most expedition the possession of the Dominions formerly belonging to them and in particular the Island of Salsette. Orders from Europe<sup>1</sup> and a considerable land-force being sent from thence have enabled them to undertake this expedition.

Their being in possession of the Island of Salsette would be of the utmost detriment to the trade and Interest of the Hon'ble Company here, by leaving it in their power to obstruct the former, as they would become possessed of the passes inland, which they would undoubtedly lay whatever impositions they pleased upon it, as they were formerly so prone on every occasion to do ; beside, on such an event, we could have no hopes of ever acquiring it for the Hon'ble Company, who, as you well know, have long much wished to become possessed of it.

1. Appendix No. 18.

In this situation we have esteemed it our undoubted duty to be before hand with the Portuguese, by acquiring possession of it for our Hon'ble Employers, and have in consequence determined to embrace some offers which have been made for facilitating this Acquisition.<sup>1</sup>

We have chiefly been impelled to this step from a thorough conviction that it would otherwise fall into the hands of the Portuguese, as from the present situation of the affairs of the Morattahs it must be out of their power to send such force as would be able to oppose them.

We still earnestly wish to remain on good terms with *Mostyn's* the Morattah Government, and hope this step will by no *position* means break that good understanding which has so long subsisted ; however we do not absolutely direct that you should remain at Poonah after the receipt of this letter, if you are convinced the safety of your person is endangered thereby ; but if on the contrary no harm can happen to yourself, we then much wish that you should continue there, and direct that you endeavour to reconcile *Assurances to Ministers* the Ministry to the measure we have pursued, by acquainting them with our motive for it and by assuring them, in case their party prevails in the present contest, we shall then be ready to give it up (if they will not be induced to cede it to us) on their granting us what we may esteem an equivalent and paying the Expenses we shall incur thereby ; for we more earnestly wish to prevent the Portuguese from possessing it than to keep it ourselves. In case you quit Poonah, you will of course bring your Assistant with you ; but we again tell you we wish you may remain, in order to convince the Ministry of the Sincerity of our professions.

[Sgd. William Hornby &ca]

Bombay Castle, 29th Novr, 1774.

1. Appendix No. 40.

*Poona*      **Wednesday 30th.** Came to hand [*by*] Pattamar from  
*letter* Poonah a letter from the Resident as follows.

HON'BLE SIR & GENTLEMEN,

*Ministers'*      My last respects waited on your Honor &ca the 28th  
*plans* Ulto ; and this is principally to inform you that Sacaram Bappoo and Nanna Furneese have at last left Pronder [*Purandhar*], and are encamped a few coase from it at the head of the Troops they have been able to collect here, which, together with those under Vamon Row and Rastiah, who have joined them, and the Army under Hurry Punt, amount in all to about 30,000 Men ; they, however, are still raising more, and are determined to proceed towards Ragobah with Holkers Vackeel, Scindy's being dispatched. They pretend peace is what they aim at ; but from the preparations they are making and their seeming anxiety in arming I should conclude, if they cannot obtain it on their terms, they will either endeavour to get Ragobah into their own hands by treachery or the sword.

*The*      The Nizam at the request of the Ministers has taken  
*Nizam* the field, and is advancing towards Tonka, near which place he is to meet them ; and after concerting some matters not yet adjusted between them, they intend to march against Ragobah.

*The*      Neither Moodajee or Sabajee Bouncello have yet joined  
*Bhonsles* either party, tho' it's still confidently asserted the former is coming to the assistance of Ragobah, who, by the best information I can procure [*from*] him, continues nearly in the same situation as mentioned in my last. I cannot account for his slowness in coming this way in any other manner than his wishing to levy all the money he can from the rich country of Candesh (on which he has for some time been raising contributions) and his not being yet joined by the expected succour.

Morabah has been particularly solicited by the other *Moroba* Ministers to accompany them ; but hitherto he has been deaf to all they have urged, and at present remains at Poonah quiet in his house ; and notwithstanding Sacaram and Nanna have come to the resolution of going themselves with the Army, yet as they must first meet the Nizam and settle affairs with him, and also wait the junction of several officers, I imagine it will take up a considerable time before this long contested dispute is brought to a conclusion.

[*Sgd. Thomas Mostyn*]

Poonah, 27th Novr, 1774.

December.

Friday 9th. At 7 A. M. Thomas Mostyn, Esqr. Arrived from Poonah.<sup>1</sup>

1. Mostyn's return to Bombay was not unexpected. "Before we entered upon these enterprises (the capture of Salsette) we judged it very necessary to recall M. Mostyn from Poona." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 206)

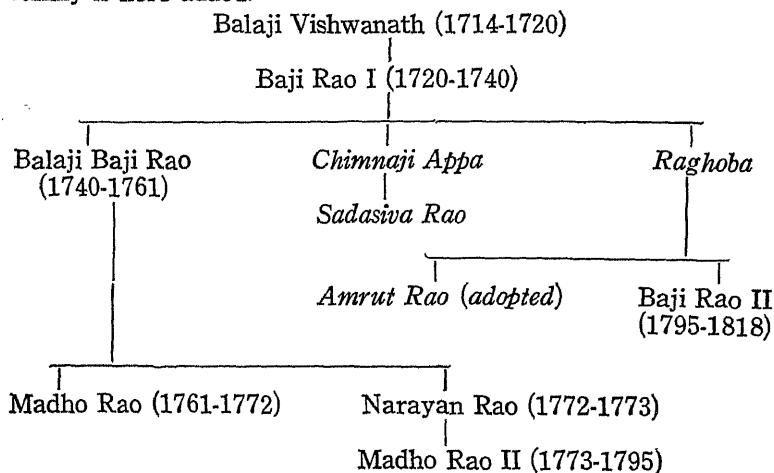


## Appendix

### No. 1. MADHO RAO.

But for his untimely death, brought about by the constant inroads of a relentless disease, Madho Rao would have gained for himself the title of the Greatest Peshwa.

By way of reference a genealogical table of the Peshwa family is here added.



### No. 2. SALSETTE, BASSEIN, KARANJA.

I.—Salsette island was occupied by the Portuguese early in the 16th century. In 1662, the English claimed it as a part of the marriage portion of the queen of Charles II; but the Portuguese contested the transfer and held it till 1739, when it was taken

from them by the Marathas. It was captured by the English in 1774, and formally annexed in 1782 by the Treaty of Salbai. (*Imp. Gaz. of India, XXI, 411*)

II.—In 1543 Bassein was ceded to the Portuguese by Bahadur Shah, King of Gujarat. It remained in Portuguese hands till 1739, when the Maratha General, Chimnaji Appa, captured it. In 1780 it was captured by General Goddard; two years later it was restored to the Marathas by the Treaty of Salbai; in 1818 it was resumed by the English. (*Imp. Gaz. of India, VII, 123*) Already in 1661, prior to the marriage contract with Portugal, Charles II instructed the English ambassador, going to Lisbon, to press that Bassein should be added to the territory to be ceded by the Treaty of the 23rd January, 1661, but the demand was not granted. (Sheppard, *Bombay*, 8, 12) A century later the English tried in vain to obtain Bassein from the Marathas, but in 1761 the Peshwa, Madho Rao, being hard pressed by the Nizam, began to make overtures to the East India Company's Officers with a view to getting the aid of European gunners and artillery. He at first offered to give up a valuable tract of land in Jambusar in the district of Broach. But the English would accept no territory but the island of Salsette, the town of Bassein and the small islands in the harbour of Bombay. These the Marathas declined to give up, so negotiations were broken off. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. I, I, 399*)

III.—Karanja is a peninsula about 8 miles long and 4 miles broad, it formed part of the Bassein province under the Portuguese from 1530 to 1737. Then the Marathas occupied it till 1774, when the English took possession. (*Imp. Gaz. of India, XV, 22*)

N.B.—“The Court of Directors and the Bombay Government agreed that, without the possession of some of the neighbouring lands, Bombay could not be held. The most suitable lands were Salsette and Bassein: Salsette for its rice and vegetables, Bassein for its timber. No chance of gaining these lands was to be allowed to pass. With this object a British envoy was sent to

Poona in 1772." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XIII, II, 500) Again, "Salsette was wanted because its produce almost supplied Bombay, and with Karanja and Bassein quite sufficed for the wants of the English. Bassein was wanted for the provision of timber for the Company's dockyard." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* I, II, 100)

#### No. 3. RAJPURI AND THE SIDIS.

The island fortress of Rajpuri, also known as Danda-Rajpuri, is situated about 27 miles south of Bombay. According to Predy's account (1628): "By nature it is very strong, wherein are at least 400 men, 6 great pieces of ordinance and from 16 to 18 falconet and ravenet, envyroned with a wall of 18 or 10 foote towards the land, and some 14 foote towards the sea, round about with battlements and half moones; and upon the top and middle of it a great house, and by it a block-house." (Foster, *English Fact.* 1624-1629, 252-253)

The Habshis or Sidis were originally natives of Abyssinia, who first came to India in the course of the 15th century for the purpose of trading. They were, however, destined to achieve greater fame in the field of action than in the line of trade. At first many of them enlisted in the military service of the Bahmani Rulers and of the Ahmadnagar Sultans. Later on they became Captains and Admirals of the Moghul fleet, but they never ceased to be fighting-men; and their skill in military affairs is evidenced by the fame of their leaders: men like Malik Ambar, Malik Yakub and Malik Kafur, names well-known in Indian History. They prospered in a wondrous manner, and wielded a power and influence much greater than warranted by their numbers. (Banaji, *Bombay and the Sidis*, 3)

#### No. 4. FATEH SINGH.

He was the third son of Damaji Gaikwar, who had three wives and six sons:

Govindrav (*second son from 1st wife*)

Sayajirav (*eldest son from 2nd wife*)

Fateh Singh (*third son probably from 2nd, perhaps from 3rd wife*)

Pilaji, Manoji, Murarirav (*sons from 3rd wife*)

In 1768, when Damaji Gaikwar died, Govindrav was acknowledged as Sena Khas Khel by the Peshwa. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. I, I, 400*) In 1771 Fateh Singh, who sided with Sayajirav, obtained a revival of this decision : Sayajirav was made Sena Khas Khel, and Fateh Singh became Mutalik or chief minister. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 200 ; *Gaz. Bom. Pres. I, I, 400*)

In 1773 Raghoba reinstated Govindrav as Sena Khas Khel. Thereupon Fateh Singh joined hands with Nana Farnavis. He was, however, defeated by Govindrav in February, 1774, (Mostyn, *Letters*, 24, 2, 1774) was in 1775 besieged in Baroda by Govindrav and Raghoba, (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. I, I, 401*) and shared in the defeat of Aras in May, 1775. (*Ibid.* 401)

Afterwards he repaired to Poona and was invested in 1778 with the title of Sena Khas Khel, and retained this title to his death in 1789. He was always ready to change sides ; and we are told that Major Forbes, left in charge of the Gujarat army, "posted a body of troops at Ahmedabad for the protection of Fateh Singh." (*Ibid* 409)

## No. 5. THE SURAT REVENUE.

The Maratha share in the Surat revenue dates from the contested succession at Surat—1748-1751—(*Gaz. Bom. Pres. II, 136, note 3*) But in 1747 the Marathas were already promised this share on the occasion of the succession of Safdar Khan as governor of the city and of Wakhar Khan, son of Safdar Khan, as commandant of the castle. (*Ibid.* 122) But Safdar Khan and Wakhar Khan were expelled in 1748 by Mia Achan, the son-in-

law of the previous governor. (*Ibid.* 122) In 1751 Wakhar Khan returned to Surat, and by promising to grant him half of the city revenues he won over Damaji Gaikwar to his side. (*Ibid.* 123) Thereupon Mia Achan was driven from the Government of the city and soon afterwards from the command of the castle. In the same year 1751 Safdar Khan resumed charge of the city, and was able to induce Damaji Gaikwar to accept of the one-third share of the revenue instead of the one-half which Wakhar Khan had agreed to give. (*Ibid.* 124) About the same time the Peshwa obtained from the Gaikwar the one-half of his interest in the revenues of Surat. (*Ibid.* 124) This would mean one-sixth of the city revenue. In 1759 the Maratha share of the city revenue amounted to £ 12,750 (Rs. 1,27,500), of which Rs. 85,500 were contributed by the customs, and Rs. 42,000 by town duties. (*Ibid.* 136)

## No. 6. THE PANVEL POONA ROAD.

### I. From Bombay to Poona *via* Panwell.

Embarking at low water the voyage to Panwell is accomplished in from 3½ to 6 hours. The passage to Bombay is very uncertain, often occupying 8 or 10 hours in the fair, and 14 or 15 hours in the rainy season,

### NORTHERN KONKAN.

At the entrance of the Gaudeh [*Gamde or Gavande*] or Panwell river, Bellapoor is on the North, and Woolwa, a dak station, on the south bank.

Cross Gaudeh River flying bridge. (1M. 5F.)

A branch of the Gaudeh over which is a Shakespearian bridge, 170 feet in length between the standards, and also a flying bridge. (7F.)

Barao Nulla seldom unfordable. (5M. 3F.)

Chouk, (dak) 163 houses, 8 shops, wells. (4M. 3F.)

Chouk River stone bridge building. (4F.)

Bhur River bridge of masonry. (7F.)

Cross Nulla to Kulota, small village. (2M. 7F.)

Right 2 furlongs Khalapoor, 175 houses, 6 shops, 3 tanks.  
(2M. 1F.)

Cross Putulgunga stone bridge. (1M. 1F.)

Pass Hull, and cross Moolgaon River. (2M. 1F.)

Khopoolee, 38 houses, 20 shops, tank, bottom of the ghat.  
(2M. 2F.)

Ascent of the Bore ghat. (3M. 1F.)

#### POONA COLLECTORSHIP.

Khundala, (dak) 50 houses, 12 shops, tank. (1M. 3F.)

Right 4 furlongs Loonowlee, 20 houses, tank. (2M. 4F.)

Wulwun, 25 houses, 5 shops, tank. (1M.)

Left 3 furlongs Waksae, 18 houses, wells. (2M. 1F.)

Karlee, 42 houses, 8 shops, tank. (1M. 7F.)

Challon's bridge [*about 2 miles west of Kamshet station*] over  
Indraownee River. (2M. 4F.)

Right 4 furlongs Pathurgaon, (dak) 11 houses. (4F.)

Kurkala, 25 houses, 1 shop (2M. 3F.)

Nygaon, 15 houses, wells. (1M. 2F.)

Wargaon, (dak) 50 houses, 8 shops, tank and wells. (4M, 4F.)

Through a Khind. (4M.)

Keula [*Kivla 4 miles east of Telegaum*], 40 houses, 2 shops.  
(4M. 4F.)

Rawut, Chinchorkur's, 25 houses, 1 shop, left bank Paona  
River which cross to Poonowla, 30 houses, 2 shops (dak).  
(2M. 4F.)

Tatora [*near Kivle*], 25 houses, 1 shop, Neelkunt Shastri's.  
(1M.)

Cross Moota River to Awoond [*Aundh near Wankad*] 3 shops.  
(5M. 7F.)

Gunesh-khind, temple on the right. (2M. 3F.)

Cross Moola River flying bridge. (2M. 3F.)

*Note.*—The city of Poona close in [on] the right, and ruins of the old Residency on the left, burnt by the Peshwa's troops when hostilities commenced.

Travellers Bungalow. (6F.)

*Note.*—From the Travellers Bungalow near the entrance of cantonments to the Church is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile.

*N. B.*—This account is taken from "Itinerary and Directory for Western India." In the copy on hand the names of the compiler and the printer, and the date of publication are missing. But the book was brought about 1826, for it contains a Government advertisement, dated April 28, 1826, and signed by R. Snow, Postmaster General.

II. Mostyn mentions in his diary.

Bellapoor (Belapur), Panwell (Panvel), Barwai (Varwai), Chouk (Chauk) 12 miles south-east of Panvel—Heber calls it Chowkee—Collapore (Kholapur, 18 miles south-east of Panvel), Compolee (Khopoli), Condolah (Khandala), Dungen Gome (Dongergaon, near Lonavla), Poll, the forts of Tong (Tung), Tikonah (Tikona), Loogur (Logarh) and Essapoor (Visapur), Cordah (perhaps Kuradve south-west of Lonavla, about 2 miles from Khandala), Sewney (Shivne near Telegaum), Chanhier (perhaps Chanked near Sewney), Wanhra (Wankra or Wankad about 3 miles west of Government House, Poona), Gunis Kind (Ganesh-kind).

## No.7. SAKHARAM BAPU.

"Soon after Narayanrao's murder, on the 30th August, 1773, Nana Farnavis and his cousin, Moroba, associated themselves with Sakharam Bapu, Trimbakrao Mama, Raghoba Purundare, Anandrao Jivaji and Haripant Phadke in attempting a revolution in setting up a claimant in opposition to Raghunathrao [*Raghoba*]

who had seized on the government on the death of Narayanrao, in whose murder he is said by some to have been concerned". (Macdonald, *Memoir and Life of the Late Nana Farnavis*, 24)

When Raghoba's cause was doomed, "Nana Farnavis required and obtained the sacrifice of his rival, Sakharam Bapu". (*Ibid.* 44)

"Sukaram Bappoo was hurried to Singurh, and thence he was removed and thrown into the fort of Pertabgurh. But Sukaram's death scene was not closed in Pertabgurh . . . . The cautious jealousy of Nana Furnuwees removed him secretly from one place to another, to prevent rescue and insurrection ; and the once great Sukaram Bappoo perished miserably in Raigurh." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, II, 109-110)

#### No. 8. NARAYAN RAO.

"Narain Rao was the youngest of the three sons of Ballajee Bajee Rao. Wiswas Rao, the eldest, fell at Panniput." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 696)

"Of Narain Rao little need be said, except to contradict unjust calumny. He was murdered in the eighteenth year of his age; his follies were those of a boy, but the feelings and interests of party blackened them into crime. He was affectionate to his relations, kind to his domestics, and all but his enemies loved him." (*Ibid.* I, 702)

#### No. 9. RAGHOBHA.

First of all it shows a singular lack of self-restraint and discrimination to make allegations which can easily be disproved. Thus for example Major B. D. Basu, referring to the treaty of 1761 between Mr. Crommelin and an agent sent by Raghoba, who was then regent during the minority of Madho Rao, made the



following assertion: "He [*Raghoba*] was the regent during the minority of his nephew [*Madho Rao*]. For the first time in Maratha History, during the regency of Raghoba, a treaty was concluded between the Christian merchants constituting the East India Company and the acknowledged head of the Maratha confederacies, the Peshwa." (Basu, *Rise of the Christian Power in India*, II, 361)

By way of comment we should like to say: "An enemy has written this, and a badly informed enemy." Major B. D. Basu was apparently not aware of the treaty of 1739, "between the Government of Bajirav, Pandit Pradhan, and the Hon'ble Stephen Law, General of the Fort of Bombay." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 701) What makes Mr. B. D. Basu's lack of information all the more inexcusable is that this treaty is explicitly mentioned by Grant Duff. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 482)

In the second place Raghoba's name should not be branded with infamy, because failure dogged his steps from one end to the other of his political career. Failure may imply inability, it does not prove wickedness, just as success is not a standard of uprightness.

In the third place it is not true to fact to say that Raghoba was unpatriotic and the victim of anglophile leanings. Mostyn's *Diaries* of 1767 and 1772 make it clear that Raghoba distrusted the English. The truth seems to be that his political opponents drove him into the hands of the English.

Finally Raghoba's ambition and selfishness had for their object the wielding of administrative power; and in this respect we venture to say that he was not more ambitious and selfish than Nana Farnavis. Both Raghoba and Nana Farnavis were ambitious, selfish men; but Nana Farnavis was superior to Raghoba in state-craft, astuteness and cunning. The contest between the two opponents was little more than the proverbial play of the cat with the mouse; and Raghoba was not the cat.

## No. 10. MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN.

From the entry on the 29th November, 1772, "Dada Row was only come on the part of the Nabob Mahomed Ally Caun with presents to the Durbar," it follows that the person here mentioned is the Nawab of the Carnatic.

Some confusion is likely to arise from the fact that in Mostyn's *Diary*, the name, Mahomed Ali Khan, does not always refer to the Nawab of the Carnatic. At times the name, Mahomed Ali Khan or Mahomed Ali Khan Hakim, refers to a person, who was a Poona resident, rather influential at the Maratha Court. When attention has been called to the confusion of names, it is easy to distinguish which Mahomed Ali Khan is meant. The Nawab generally acts through his vakil, the Hakim is a Poona resident.

## No. 11. THE JANJIRA REVOLUTION.

In 1762, Sidi Yakut Khan, became chief of Janjira, but his sovereignty was disputed by a rival claimant, Sidi Abdul Rahim Khan. The English did their best to adjust the differences between the rival Sidis, and by the treaty of 1772 Sidi Abdul Rahim was put in possession of Dada Rajpuri in subordination to Sidi Yakut, and was also promised the right of succession to Janjira. (Banaji, *Bombay and the Sidis*. 148-157) From Mostyn's *Diary* it follows that Sidi Rahim violated this treaty and dispossessed Sidi Yakut Khan of the sovereignty. To the best of our knowledge this revolution is not mentioned elsewhere. There is, however, the following statement (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XI, 448, note 4) tantalising in its brevity; "After fruitless efforts to take Janjira, Abdul Rahim entered the fortress as a disciple of Sidi Yakut, who was well versed in the Koran. Abdul Rahim is said to have murdered his preceptor—Janjira State Records." It is further recorded that "Sidi Yakut died shortly after this agreement [of 1772], and Abdul Rahim succeeded him and continued to rule till his death in 1784." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XI, 448)

From the entry under date Saturday, the 10th March, 1773, it may be gathered that Sidi Abdul Rahim Khan was already at that time the ruler of Janjira.

#### No. 12. NANA FARNAVIS.

In estimating the chequered career of Nana Farnavis it is of the highest moment to answer in the light of historical events the following question: Did Nana Farnavis identify himself with Maharashtra? or did he identify Maharashtra with his own interests? Furthermore in comparing and contrasting Nana Farnavis and Raghoba, it should be borne in mind that in the contest, which broke out after Narayan Rao's murder, Raghoba was rather less prepared to make territorial concessions to the English (Mostyn, *Letters*, the 13th April, 1774) than the Ministerial Party—of whom Farnavis was the soul—were ready to win over the Nizam by promises of grants of forts and jaghirs. (Mostyn's *Letters* the 24th April, the 28th May, the 24th June, the 23rd July, the 10th August and the 1st November, 1774)

#### No. 13. MOROBA.

He was a cousin of Nana Farnavis. At first he joined Nana Farnavis against Raghoba when the latter had proclaimed himself Peshwa after Narayan Rao's murder; and from Mostyn's *Diary* we learn that he played an important part in the Barbhair plot. Later on he changed sides, and after Gangabai's death he worked secretly to restore the fallen fortunes of Raghoba, trying for this purpose to make an alliance with the English. The proposed alliance was never made, and Moroba fell ultimately into the hands of Nana Farnavis, by whom he was thrown into confinement in the fortress of Ahmednagar. (Macdonald, *Memoir and Life of the Late Nana Farnavis*, 24, 26, 32-38; Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, II, 69, 72-73)

## No. 14. THE POONA ORDERS.

On the 3rd March, 1768, Thomas Mostyn, after his return to Bombay from the 1767-1768 Embassy, wrote :

“Enclosed your Honour and Council will please to receive the six following orders relating to points I laid before the darbar; the one regarding Orpar, as I before advised you, I was not able to procure; but Ramaji Chitnis will have directions about it, and Madhavrao assured me our merchants at Surat would meet with no impediments.

“One order on Visaji Pant for the payment of Rupees thirty thousand, nine hundred and fifteen, three quarters, fifty reas, being the amount of losses sustained by our merchants as settled three years ago, *i.e.*, in 1765.

“One ditto on Visaji Pant for delivering to Nasarvanji Modi his batela taken three years ago.

“One ditto on Visaji Pant for delivering to Byramji Hormasji a boat of 200 khandis in lieu of his grab taken about seven years ago.

“One ditto on Ramaji Pant for rendering up some slaves fled to Salsette, belonging to Mr. Richard Nowland.

“One ditto on Moraji Sindia of Chaul for two slaves fled thither belonging to the above gentleman.

“One ditto on Wasudev Pant, Governor of Karanja, for removing the fishing stakes fixed by their Kolis within the Bombay limits.” (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 176)

## No. 15. THE CAPTURE OF BROACH.

“The political connection of the English Company with Broach dates from their capture of Surat in 1759. There were certain claims of the Nawab of Surat upon the customs revenue of Broach. These together with a sum, due to the English on account of an excessive levy of duties on cloth, amounting altoge-

ther to £15,000 (Rs. 1,50,000), Nawab Mazad Khan of Broach was called upon to pay.

“In the early months of 1771 a body of the Company's troops in the neighbourhood of Surat was engaged against the Kolis. In the hopes that a display of military force might induce the Nawab to propose some settlement of the claims made against him, the chief of Surat was directed to transport this force by sea to the neighbourhood of Broach. [These instructions were not followed, and the troops were sent by land.]

“On the 1st of May the troops reached the bank of the Narbada, opposite the city of Broach. Posting themselves on an island in the river, they directed their guns against the wall of the city and succeeded in making a breach. A party was sent in boats to effect an entrance ; but miscalculating the strength of the current, the boats were carried down the stream, and the attempt had to be abandoned. In addition to this failure, a shell from the city, lighting on the magazine, blew it up, destroying the greater part of the besiegers' ammunition ; [and the attacking force had to retire.]

“On the 30th July, 1771, the Bombay Government received a letter from the Nawab of Broach, offering to visit Bombay with a view of settling in person the claims made against him. The Nawab reached Bombay on the 4th November, 1771. Before he left, he engaged to pay a sum of £40,000 (Rs. 4,00,000), of which £20,000 (Rs. 2,00,000) were to be forwarded in six months, and the remainder at noted intervals ; the whole payment to be completed within two years.” (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. II*, 469-471) This treaty was concluded on the 30th November, 1771.

“But the Nawab of Broach, Mazad Khan, failed to give any positive promise to bide by his terms of the treaty.....A force was accordingly despatched from Bombay in the beginning of November, 1772. On the 18th November, 1772, the English forces stormed and captured Broach.” (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. II*, 471)

Additional light is thrown on the Nawab's intentions when

visiting Bombay. "The Nawab came to Bombay with the expressed intention of securing a cessation of hostilities, but in reality influenced by a desire to gain time to cement an alliance with the Gaikwar. At Bombay a treaty was proposed ; but the Nawab, disappointed with its terms, so conducted himself as to bring down on Broach the projected expedition ; and the town was taken by assault on the 18th November, 1772." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* VII, 190 ; Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, II, 3)

#### No. 16. NANA AND SADOBA.

'Nana' referred to in the Diary is Balaji Baji Rao. The name was first given to Baji Rao I, (Pope, *A Text-Book of Indian History*, 178) ; but it was afterwards also given to his successors.

Sudabah or Sadoba is Sadasiva Rao. (*Appendix No. 1*) Sadoba is a short nickname usually used by elders towards youngsters.

W. A. Price wrote on the 12th September, 1759 : "Nana, I observed, immediately returned to his apartments, and left Sadoba to transact the current business." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 130) This confirms Mostyn's statement : "That the Government be conducted as was done by Nannah and Sudabah, that all business be carried out by Ragobah, but subject to the control of Naron Row."

#### No. 17. THE RATNAGIRI COAST FORTS.

*Ratnagiri* : "It lies facing the sea, 136 miles south-east of Bombay. According to the local story its defences were begun under the Bahamani kings (1343-1500). But the evidence of the Bahmanis' hold on Ratnagiri is so slight that it seems more likely to have been the work of a Bijapur officer (1500-1660). Sivaji,

who is said to have gained possession of the fort about 1670, added or renewed the strong wall that crests the eastern ridge, and built protecting towers. In the eighteenth century the citadel defences are said to have been improved by the Angrias (1710-1755), and completed by the Peshwas (1755-1818). In 1862 the fort was out of repair, and its 117 guns were all honeycombed and useless. In this state it has since remained." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. X*, 358)

II. *Gheria*: It is also known as Viziadrug or Vijayadurg. "Situated on the neck of the rocky land that forms the south side of the bay, Vijayadurg, is one of the best and most Muhammadan of Konkan fortresses. . . . The fort is probably old, enlarged under the Bijapur kings, and about the middle of the seventeenth century, much strengthened by Sivaji.....About forty years later (1698), the pirate chief Angria made it the capital of a territory stretching for about 150 miles along the coast and from thirty to sixty miles inland. For more than fifty years, Angria's pirates were a terror to all traders".....(*Ibid. X*, 380) "At last, in 1755 it was settled that in the next fair season the Peshwa's troops should attack him from land and the British from sea." On the 13th April the garrison surrendered after the fort had been bombarded by the British fleet under Admiral Watson, and Colonel (afterwards Lord) Clive took possession. "Fifteen hundred prisoners were taken; eight Englishmen and three Dutchmen were rescued; and plunder, amounting, besides stores, to £125,000 (Rs. 12,50,000), was divided among the captors." The ruin of Angria's navy was complete. "The Bombay Government were very anxious to keep Gheria, and offered to give Bankot in exchange. To this the Peshwa would not agree, and Gheria was handed over in the following October (1756)." The fort remained in the hands of the Marathas till June, 1818, when it was transferred to the British. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. X*, 381-383)

III. *Suvarndurg*: "The Golden Fortress, is perhaps the most striking of the Ratnagiri coast forts. Probably built by the

Bijapur kings in the sixteenth century, and in 1660 strengthened by Sivaji, it was in 1698 a station of Kanhoji Angria's fleet, and in 1713 was formally made over to him by Shahu Raja. Under Kanhoji's successor, Tulaji, Suvarndurg became one of the head centres of piracy. Such damage did its fleets cause both to native and foreign shipping, that the Peshwa's government several times proposed that the English should join them in suppressing Angria. Early in 1755, a joint attack on Suvarndurg, Bankot and some other of Angria's forts was arranged," and Suvarndurg was captured and handed over to the Marathas. In 1818 it was taken by Colonel Kennedy with little resistance. (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. X*, 338)

IV. *Anjanvel*: "Anjanvel fort, called Gopalgad, was built by the Bijapur kings in the sixteenth century, strengthened by Sivaji about 1660, and improved by his son, Sambhaji (1681-1689). In 1699 the fort was attacked and captured by Khairat Khan, Hubshi of Janjira (1680-1708). In 1744 (December) Tulaji Angria Sirkhel took it from the Hubshi, and named it Gopalgad. From him it passed in 1755 to the Peshwa, and after the Peshwa's overthrow fell to Colonel Kennedy on the 17th May, 1818. The fort stands on a prominent and commanding point on the south shore of the creek entrance, half a mile from Anjanvel." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. X*, 318).

V. *Bankot*: "Fort Victoria . . . . . is, next to the island of Bombay, the earliest English possession in Western India. It lies at the foot of a rocky headland on the south shore of the entrance to the Bankot or Savitri river, seventy-three miles south-east of Bombay . . . . On the 8th April, 1755, five days after the fall of Suvarndurg, Commodore James arrived off Bankot. The fort surrendered on the first summons. Commodore James handed over charge to the Marathas, and at the end of the rains (October) the fort and nine neighbouring villages were ceded to the British, and its name changed from Himmatgad to Fort Victoria." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. X*, 321)



## No. 18. DON JOSE PEDRO DA CAMERA.

1. There seems to be some confusion in Mostyn's *Diary* as regards the gentleman's Christian name and the date of his arrival. "Don Jose Pedro da Camera, Governor and Captain-General of India, received his nomination on the 4th February, 1774, arrived at Goa on the 22nd September following, and took over the Government two days later." (Danvers, *The Portuguese in India*, II, 439) Similarly, in a letter addressed to the Governor-General in Council, Fort William, and dated the 31st December, 1774, the members of the Bombay Government wrote: "We have received advice from Mr. Robert Henshaw that the Portuguese had this season (*therefore in 1774*) received, with their new Captain-General, Don Jose Pedro da Camera, a very considerable reinforcement of men and ships from Europe." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 204) From this it follows that Mostyn's statement, made in December, 1773, is somewhat premature.

## No. 19. THE BHONSLE QUARREL.

In the family contest for the Government, Mudaji Bhonsle was in the right, and Sabaji in the wrong; for their brother, Janoji, having no children, had adopted Raghuji, Mudaji's son, and had appointed Mudaji the boy's guardian. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 697-698) When Grant Duff writes that Janoji Bhonsle was at Teur at the period of Madho Rao's death, on the 18th November, 1772, he seems to have been misinformed. Mr. G. S. Sardesai to whom we applied for information, wrote: "It is now beyond doubt that Janoji died on the 16th May, 1772." On the 27th December, 1772, the Poona durbar openly sided with Sabaji against Mudaji. (Mostyn, *Diary*, 27-12-1772) The durbar's decision was probably, at least partially, inspired by the opposition at the Poona Court to Raghoba. As Grant Duff writes: "Mudaji, unfortunately for himself and his son, had

hitherto retained a connection with Rugonath Rao; and his pretensions not being supported by Narain Rao or his ministers, he could only levy troops and assert his cause by force of arms. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 698) The final stage of the quarrel is thus briefly recorded in the Imperial Gazetteer of India: "On Janoji's death, his brothers fought for the succession, until one shot the other on the battlefield of Panchgaon, 6 miles south of Nagpur; and Mudaji succeeded to the regency of his infant son, Raghuji II, who was Janoji's adopted heir." (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XVIII, 307)

#### No. 20. GHAZI-UD-DIN IV.

He belonged to the House of the Nizams, was a grand-son of Nizam-ul-Mulk and a son of Ghazi-ud-din III, Nizam-ul-Mulk's eldest son.

When Nizam-ul-Mulk died in 1748, his eldest son, Ghazi-ud-din III, was detained at Delhi; and it seems probable that bribes may have been employed by his brothers to keep him there. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 535) Afterwards he proceeded to the Deccan, where he was poisoned in 1752. His son, Ghazi-ud-din IV, was only 16 years old (Keene, *The Fall of the Moghul Empire*, 30) when the news of his father's death reached him at Delhi; but in spite of his youth he became in a short time one of the chief contending statesmen, whom political intrigue gathered round the tottering throne of the last Moghul rulers.

In 1754 Ghazi-ud-din was chiefly instrumental in deposing, imprisoning and blinding Ahmad Shah. He then raised Alamgir II to the throne, and consummated his crimes by murdering the harmless emperor. Next, he placed a son of Kam Baksh on the imperial throne, who assumed the name of Shah Jehan. (Pope, *A Text-Book of Indian History*, 122, 139) But before long, Ghazi-ud-din IV and his puppet emperor were obliged to flee from Delhi.

The subsequent career of Ghazi-ud-din IV is shrouded in

oblivion. According to Pope, he went in 1790 on a pilgrimage to Mecca, and was not heard of since. (Pope, *A Text-Book of Indian History*, 139) According to Keene, Ghazi-ud-din IV spent his last days in Bundelkhand, where he died in 1800. (Keene, *The Fall of the Moghul Empire*, 43) Mr. G. S. Sardesai forwards the following information: "After 1759, Ghazi-ud-din forced to leave the imperial court, became a fugitive, and sought protection with various potentates. At last, Nana Farnavis conferred a jagir on him at Kalpee for his maintenance, which he enjoyed to his death in 1802."

Mostyn wrongly states that Ghazi-ud-din IV was Muhammad Shah's Vizier. Muhammad Shah died in 1748, and Nizam-ul-Mulk's eldest son, Ghazi-ud-din III, was then in Delhi, where he remained till 1752, when he repaired to the Deccan. It was only after the death of Ghazi-ud-din III in October, 1752, that Ghazi-ud-din IV became influential at the Delhi Court; he made himself Vizier during the reigns of Ahmad Shah and Alamgir II.

## No. 21. AFFAIRS IN HINDUSTAN.

The Rohilla, Zabita Khan, was the cause of all the trouble in Hindustan.

The Marathas were eager to take revenge on the Rohillas who had fought against them at Panipat. According to the Rohilla account, the Rohillas had even been chiefly instrumental in bringing about the Maratha defeat. "The defection of the Jats was not yet certainly known among them [*the Marathas*], when a large column of horse, led by the Rohilla commanders, poured down upon them [*the Marathas*] under cover of a cloud of dust; and, forming on the ground which the Jats had occupied, separated the Mahratta army in two parts." [Hamilton, *Historical Relations of the Rohilla Afghans*, 150] The important part here ascribed to the Rohillas is probably highly exaggerated; but at the same time the Rohilla account may help to explain Maratha animosity

against the Rohillas. For some time the Marathas refrained from attacking Rohilkhand, as they were endeavouring to induce the emperor, Shah Alam, to withdraw from the protection of the English, in which Najib-ud-daula's assistance might be useful. But, after Najib-ud-daula's death, Shah Alam began to make overtures of friendships to the Marathas, who had no longer any reason to spare Rohilkhand, where Zabita Khan reigned in succession to his father, Najib-ud-daula. Twice they overran Zabita Khan's territory, the second time with the concurrence of Shah Alam who bore Zabita Khan a personal enmity.

What ultimately saved Zabita Khan was Tukaji Holkar's protection; and through Tukaji Holkar Zabita Khan was endeavouring to recover his territory and his father's rank at Delhi. But Shah Alam would not listen to the proposal, and at last ordered his general, Najaf Khan, to resist the Marathas by force (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 682) Moreover, Mahadaji Sindia was as opposed to Zabita Khan as Tukaji Holkar was favourable to him. Thus it came about that Zabita Khan estranged Shah Alam from the Marathas, and was at the same time the cause of dissensions among the Maratha military leaders (Mostyn, *Diary*, 27, 12, 1772; 9, 12, 1772)

## No. 22. THE AUDIENCE OF THE 6TH JANUARY, 1773.

I. *The Treaty of 1739*: The capitulation made with Chimmnaji Appa is the treaty made by Stephen Law, Governor of Bombay, and Baji Rao I in July, 1739. The treaty, comprising 14 Articles, is given by Forrest in his *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 701-704.

II. *The Seventh Article*: It runs as follows: "The English will not assist any of Bajirav's enemies, though in friendship with them, with any other or more of the sorts than what they engage to supply Bajirav's State with; and Bajirav shall observe the like agreement with the English" (left-column version) "The English shall not give assistance of any sort to the enemies of this State,

though they may be their friends. In like manner we will not assist the enemies of the English. All the sorts they supply this State with, they may furnish others as they please, excepting munitions of war." (right-column version)

III. *British Assistance to the Sidi*: On the 24th February, 1760, the Sidi arrived in Bombay; he "has been guilty of a very rash action in exposing his person to the danger of the Moratta fleet, which blocks up that place [*Janjira*]...He is in the utmost distress at Rogipore [*Rajpuri*] for some money and munition to defend it against the Morattas; and we, considering that it would prove highly injurious to our Hon'ble Masters' interest to suffer them to make themselves masters of it, resolved, that we, in as private a manner as possible, supply him with some money and ammunition, for which any jewels he may have, or whatever security it is in his power to give, should be obtained." (*Bombay Public Depart. Diary* 34, 147-148, quoted by Banaji, *Bombay and the Sidis*, Appendix No. 244)

IV. *Mostyn's Justification*: Thomas Mostyn's reply that the English had helped the Sidi because the Marathas had called the Portuguese to their assistance was a plausible explanation, but not the true one, which is supplied by the *Bombay Public Department Diary*: "We are further confirmed in our resolution for assisting the Sciddees from an apprehension that, if the Morattas should get possession of Rogipore [*Danda-Rajpuri*], they would likewise be troublesome in their demands about the Tanka at Surat, as that revenue has belonged to the Sciddees, and because their desperation, in case we did not assist them, might fling them into the arms of the Dutch, and at once might render all abortive [*the*] pains which we have taken to prevent their getting any footing there. (*Bombay Public Depart. Diary*, 34, 147-148, quoted by Banaji, *Bombay and the Sidis*, Appendix No. 244) It is true that there were Portuguese fighting with the Marathas against the Sidi, but they must have been a very small number; for the Bombay authorities wrote in March, 1761, to the Janjira Committee: "We

*did not know* that the Portuguese were at war with the Sciddees as principals; and, therefore, if they came here, during their [*the Committee's*] stay, or were there on their arrival, they [*the Committee*] must acquaint them [*the Portuguese*] the place [*Janjira*] was assigned to us." [*Bombay Public Depart. Diary*, 36, quoted by Banaji, *Bombay and the Sidis*, Appendix No. 251) But these instructions were given in March, 1761; whilst the English had determined to help the Sidis with ammunition on the 26th February, 1761. Consequently Mostyn's explanation is all wrong.

#### No. 23. THE DELHI FIGHTING IN DECEMBER, 1772.

Beginning with Wednesday, the 13th January, 1773, the Diary refers repeatedly to the fighting that took place in, and around, Delhi in December, 1772, (*Diary*, the 15th, 16th, 18th and 23rd January) These various entries should be viewed in the light of the statement made on the 23rd January, which gives the results of the fighting.

The following is a brief account of what occurred. In 1769 or 1770 Zabita Khan succeeded his father, Najib-ud-daula, as ruler of Rohilkhand. The Marathas had spared Najib-ud-daula (*Appendix* No. 21), but after they had won over the emperor, Shah Alam, to their side, they did not mean to spare Najib-ud-daula's son. With the approval of Shah Alam, who hated Zabita Khan, they plundered Rohilkhand. Zabita Khan had, however, found a strong protector in the person of Holkar, and was encouraged by Holkar in his endeavour to regain his territory and his position at Delhi. (Mostyn, *Diary*, 27-12-1773) But Shah Alam did not want to hear of Zabita's re-instatement in his office. He had also begun to realise that the Marathas were bent upon territorial encroachments to his own disadvantage. At last he ordered his general, Najaf Khan, to drive the Marathas out of Delhi.

However the Maratha general, Visaji Krishna Biniwalla, of his

own accord withdrew his troops from the city, and sent to Poona for further orders. After a long delay, occasioned by the death of Madho Rao, Visaji was ordered to drive Najaf Khan from Delhi. The latter tried in vain to ward off the blow; and Shah Alam was given no choice, he had to accept the terms dictated by the Marathas. These terms were not severe. Najaf Khan was dismissed, and Zabita Khan was appointed commander-in-chief of the imperial forces. The appointment of Zabita Khan, in spite of Sindia's opposition, was due to the influence of Holkar, in whom Zabita Khan had found a powerful protector. (Kincaid and Parasnis, *A History of the Maratha People*, III, 100-106)

This account is borne out by Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 703-704.

Hence it would seem that the sensational news about Shah Alam's withdrawal from Delhi and Shuja-ud-daula's threatening letter, mentioned in the *Diary* on the 15th, 16th and 18th January, were false rumours.

#### No. 24. THE CROMMELIN TREATY.

Crommelin was Governor of Bombay when he made on the 14th September, 1761, a treaty with the Marathas. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 168) Two clauses of this treaty have been published by Mr. Banaji in *Bombay and the Sidis*, Unpublished Document No. 261; they run as follows:

"Articles of Agreement made and entered into between the Hon'ble Charles Crommelin, Esqr. president & Governour & a Council of Bombay, on the part of the Hon'ble united English East India Company & Govind Sewram Punt Tatiah, in behalf of Madurao Balajee, Son of Badjeerao, Pandit Punt Pradhan, for preserving the friendship subsisting between us & for adjusting the differences which have arose between the Government of Punah, & the Sciddies of Ginjerah.

"4th. That proper people shall be forthwith dispatched for

restoring the whole Jurisdiction and Territories of Rajapore to the Sciddies of Ginjeerah in the same condition and manner as they remained before Invaded and attacked by Ramajee Punt; which country is not to be molested in future by any of the Moratta Officers or Subjects.

"5th. That all prisoners taken by the Morattas or Sciddies, subjects of either Government & now in their possession, shall be sent to Bombay within one Month from the signing of these Articles, and mutually restored by the Governor to their freedom; and all Hostilities between the Morattas & Sciddies shall cease from this Time."

These clauses are taken from the *Public Department Diary* (Bombay), 39, 598-599, which does not give the remaining clauses. Alluding to this treaty, Grant Duff writes: "It consisted of seven or eight articles regarding detention or stoppage of vessels, wrecks, deserters and the restoration of all territory taken from the Seedee by Ramajee Punt." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 627, note)

This treaty is not to be confounded with the "fourteen articles delivered in Governor Crommelin's time." Mostyn writes: "These articles were settled when I was last here, and the order for the payment of Rs. 30,915-3-50 particularly mentions it" (Mostyn, *Diary*, 28-1-1773) On the occasion of the second embassy he wrote on the 27th January, 1768; "They read over to me the 14 articles they had presented to Governor Crommelin; to which having separately answered, they with some difficulty consented to giving an order for the payment of the amount of losses, our merchants had sustained." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 168, 176)

These 14 articles are also mentioned on the 25th October, 1763; and they are given in detail on the 26th October, 1773, under the heading:

"Translate of 15 articles sent me [*Mostyn*] by Raghoba." There is every reason to believe that the articles of 1768 are the



same as those of 1773, but whereas there were 14 articles in 1768, there are 15 in 1773.

#### No. 25. THE WAR WITH SHUJA-UD-DAULA.

The following account of the Maratha campaign in Hindustan is drawn from Rohilla sources and compiled from a Persian manuscript by Hamilton.

“The Mahrattas, on first taking the field in November, 1772, as the Ganges was not yet fordable, moved some way down the Doab;.....upon their spies bringing them intelligence that the Ganges had become fordable, they suddenly turned and directed their route to Ramghaut.

“The [*Rohilla*] chiefs.....assembled their forces at a place about 15 miles distant from Ramghaut, and from thence detached a chosen body under the command of Ahmed Khan, who had succeeded Sirdar Khan in the office of Buxy, with directions to guard the ford at Ramghaut and to seize all the boats on that part of the river.

“The Buxy accordingly marched; but instead of following his instructions,.....contented himself with throwing a part of his forces into a small fort, which commanded the road from the ghaut or ford into the country, but was so situated as to defend the passage over the river.....Holkar found means to effect a passage for his army early the next morning, his cavalry fording at the usual place, and his infantry and rocket-men being transported in boats a little lower down; and the next day he attacked the Buxy in the fort, and soon obliged him to surrender and give up all his artillery and ammunition. From hence the victorious marauders proceeded by Sumbull and plundered all the country between that city and Moradabad; but they were not long unopposed.” (Hamilton, *Historical Relations of the Rohilla Afghans*, 184-186)

"In the beginning of 1773.....as soon as intelligence was received of the Mahrattas having marched to Ramghaut, with a view to renew their attacks upon Rohilcund, the combined armies of the English and Suja-ud-Dowlah advanced towards the country by rapid marches, and arrived at Shawbad at the period when Toko Jee [*Tukaji Holkar*] crossed the Ganges and defeated the Rohillas under the Buxy.

"The English immediately after this affair proceeded to Ramghaut, and had nearly surprised a body of 4,000 Mahratta horse whilst fording the Ganges at the Ghaut of Gurrickpore, about 5 miles below that place, in order to reinforce their friends on that side ; the greatest part of them was in the middle of the river when the British army came in sight, upon which they suddenly returned, and marched upon the western bank, where Beysa Jee [*Visaji*] was encamped with part of the Mahratta army and all their artillery and heavy baggage ; whilst the British and Vizier's troops continued their route along the opposite shore, until they arrived at Assipore within sight of Beysa Jee's [*Visaji's*] encampment. . . . Here the Mahrattas commenced a cannonade against the English ; but this was soon answered by the latter with such effect as presently silenced their artillery and obliged their whole army to change their ground with some precipitation. . . . . Some days after that event, as the Mahratta army was now divided, part of it being still at Sumbull in Rohilcund under Toko Jee [*Tukaji Holkar*] and the other under Beysa Jee [*Visaji*] to the westward of the Ganges, it was determined to attack them in both quarters at the same time. With this view the British troops forded the river at Ramghaut, whilst Suja-ud-Dowlah and Hafiz Rahmut prepared to advance with their united forces against Toko Jee [*Tukaji Holkar*]. Beysa Jee [*Visaji*], when he heard of the approach of the brigade, decamped in the utmost hurry and confusion, and were off to the distance of 40 miles in a single march. From some suspicions which Suja-ud-Dowlah still entertained of Hafiz Rahmut, the other part of the concentrated operation was not executed by him ; but

the English, recrossing the Ganges the next day after the flight of Beysa Jee [*Visaji*], proceeded towards Sumbull; upon which Toko Jee [*Tukaji Holkar*] retreated to Poot, a town upon the Ganges, about 50 miles above Ramghaut, and crossed the river at that place on a bridge of boats which he afterwards destroyed.

“The Mahratta army made some movements which indicated an intention of crossing into Rohilcund at Corimbosghaut, a considerable distance higher up the river ; but the brigade, advancing by rapid marches to that place, prevented them, whilst the Vizier with his troops guarded all the fords at Ramghaut and the neighbourhood ; and as the hot season appeared, and the Ganges began to be swelled by the melting snows on the northern mountains, they were constrained for the present to relinquish all thoughts of renewing their depredations to the eastward, and returned to Etawa.” (Hamilton, *Historical Relations of the Rohilla Afghans*, 188-195)

Compare Hamilton’s account with that of Strachey : “On the 20th March the English troops were close to Ramghat. The main body of the Marathas was on the opposite bank of the Ganges, but a considerable force had suddenly crossed the river and marched towards the camp of Hafiz Rahmat . . . . . He had been carrying on the same double dealings as heretofore practised by that treacherous sect ; and the Marathas, in the hope of forcing him to come to an immediate decision, resolved to surprise him, if possible, by a sudden attack. To carry out their project it was first necessary to make themselves masters of a small fort occupied by the Rohillas . . . . . [*who*] surrendered. By this time, however, the English troops were so near that the Marathas did not venture to continue their expedition, and they retreated rapidly to the Ganges.

“On the 21st March . . . . . it was determined to make an immediate attack on the Marathas with the whole of the allied forces. The Vizier and the Rohillas were to operate on the left

bank of the Ganges, while Sir Robert Barker was to cross the river and attack the enemy on the right side.

"The English at once proceeded to carry out their part of the plan, and on the 22nd March they crossed the Ganges without opposition . . . . . The Marathas immediately broke up their encampment, retreated rapidly, and did not halt till they had put a distance of more than 20 miles between themselves and the English. . . . . The combined movement, that was to have been made by the Vizier and the Rohillas, had not taken place ; for the Vizier continued to be suspicious of treachery on the part of Hafiz Rahmat. . . . . It was agreed that an immediate advance should be made by their combined forces against the Marathas, who had still a large force on the banks of the Ganges. They were in possession of Sambhal and other places near the river, and they had constructed a bridge of boats at Puth in the Moradabad District. Hoping to seize the families of Hafiz Rahmat and other chiefs, the Marathas resolved to make a sudden raid upon Bisauli, about 30 miles distant from their camp. Sir Robert Barker . . . . . marched hastily to intercept them ; they abandoned their design, levying a contribution from the town of Moradabad as they passed. They were rapidly followed by the English, and on the 28th March the whole of the Maratha force precipitately retreated across the Ganges, destroying the bridge, and leaving behind them much of their baggage. Rohilkhand was now entirely free from the invaders ; . . . . neither in that nor in any future year did the Marathas renew their attacks on Rohilkhand." (Strachey, *Hastings and the Rohilla Warfare*, 78-82)

#### No. 26. MALVAN AND JIJABAI.

"Malvan, Sindhudurg and Padmagad were three island forts situated, about 65 miles south-east of Ratnagiri, in a bay almost entirely blocked by rocky reefs. In 1665, failing in his efforts to

take Janjira, Sivaji chose Malvan with its rocky island and reef-blocked harbour as his coast head-quarters. In 1713, at the time of the division of Sivaji's dominions between the Kolhapur and the Satara families, Malvan fell to the Kolhapur chiefs, and under them became the head-quarters of the most active and destructive of the coast pirates. In 1765 an expedition, under the joint command of Major Gordon and Captain John Watson of the Bombay Marine, was sent against Sindhudurg. They speedily reduced the fort, and intending to keep it, gave it the name of Fort Augustus. But as it was unprofitable and very hard to dismantle, the fort was given back to the Kolhapur chief on his promising not to molest trade, to pay the Bombay Government a sum of £38,289 (Rs. 3,82,890) and to let the English establish a factory at Malvan." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. X*, 346-351)

The then ruler of Malvan was Jijabai, and in the fourteenth article of the treaty made with her, it was said : "Maharaji Jijabai, the Rani, agrees, should the Honourable Company be attacked, and they should require her assistance, to provide them with what troops they may want, they supplying them with provisions only. The Honourable Company in like manner agrees to assist the Rani, should it be convenient for them." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres. XXIV*, 230)

As regards Rani Jijabai, "when in 1760 Sambhaji of Kolhapur died without issue, she adopted the son of Shahaji Bhonsle of Khanvat. . . . . The boy thus adopted received the name of Sivaji, and during his long minority the Kolhapur State was administered by his adoptive mother, Jijabai.

"The name of the regent Jijabai has terrible associations connected with it in Kolhapur. It is narrated that one night the goddess Kali, under her manifestation as Sita, appeared to her with the intimation that, to secure prosperity, the shrine of the goddess at Panhala, where Jijabai always resided, should be kept constantly wet with blood. The intimation was obeyed but too implicitly ; and parties, sent out by the Regent at night, constantly

scoured the neighbourhood of Panhala to procure fresh victims, who were sacrificed at a spot in the inner fort, which is still pointed out with horror.

"In 1772 Jijabai died, leaving her adopted son still a minor and surrounded by enemies." (*Gaz. Bom. Pres.* XXIV, 230)

As the first rumours of Jijabai's death reached Poona towards the end of February, 1773, it may either be inferred that the date of her death as given by the *Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency* is not quite correct, or it has to be admitted either that communications were in those days very slow, or that some interested party succeeded in keeping her death secret for a pretty long time.

#### No. 27. GOPIKABAI.

On the 9th October, 1775, W. Taylor wrote to Warren Hastings: "The wise and just administration of Raghoba would have totally defeated the views those bad men (money-making Brahmans) had formed by benefiting themselves by the minority of Madhavrav. They, therefore, exerted every artifice and intrigue to deprive Raghoba of power. Gopikabai, the widow of Nana, was a woman deeply given to intrigues of every kind, and her scandalous licentiousness justly attracted the reproach of one so nearly concerned in the honour of the family as her husband's brother. Hence arose the bitter hatred of Gopikabai to Raghoba. The ministers availed themselves of this circumstance and of her influence with her young son to breed a coldness between the uncle and nephew, which ended in a declared breach, the total deprivation of power and at length, in some degree, in the confinement of Raghoba." (*Forrest, Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 250)

This representation of Raghoba as a just and wise administrator and of Gopikabai as a woman of scandalous licentiousness is not true to fact. Raghoba never excelled as an administrator,

and Gopikabai may have been jealous and intriguing, but was not a woman of loose morals. Nor is it just to lay the whole blame on Gopikabai. Anandibai was to a large extent responsible for the family feud.

"Ragunathrao kept his promise [*to Madho Rao*], and for a month or six weeks uncle [*Raghoba*] and nephew [*Narayan Rao*] were on the most amicable terms. But the prince was wholly under the influence of his wife, Anandibai; whilst the latter was equally submissive to his mother, Gopikabai. And the contending passions of two jealous and ambitious women set at naught the hopes and the intentions of the dead Peshwa [*Madho Rao*]. Gopikabai urged on her son that it was impossible that Raghunathrao could forgive the past, and begged Narayan Rao to confine him as before." (Kincaid and Parasnis, *A History of the Maratha People*, III, 103.)

This seems a much more reasonable view than W. Taylor's. As regards the dissensions in Poona, Gopikabai and Anandibai were both responsible for the family feud; and it seems to be a case of share and share alike.

By way of further information we quote here the testimony of Mr. G. S. Sardesai, who in reply to our request for reliable information on this point, wrote as follows: "Whatever else Gopikabai may have been, there is not the slightest reproach found in any contemporary writings about her character." This statement from one so well versed in the history of that period is in our opinion both convincing and conclusive.

Mr. G. S. Sardesai also forwarded a literal translation in English of a letter that gives us a further insight into Gopikabai's character. "Writes Purushotam Krishna to Nana Phadnis an account of his visit to Gopikabai at Nasik. Dated the 2nd June, 1774, [*i. e. 9 months after the murder of Narayan Rao*]. "Her Highness Shrimant Gopikabai is at Gangapur [*near Nasik*]. I asked her to whom I should hand over the fort of Trimbak [*just captured by the writer*]. She informed me that I should obtain orders

about the matter from you two [*i. e. Bapu and Nana*]. Her Highness has absolutely no desire to enter into any political affairs herself. She takes her bath early morning and devotes herself entirely to religious concerns. This is all her desire, and she follows the same programme. She is kind to all and has no ill will towards anybody. She appreciates all that you both have been doing and has no desire to interfere with the affairs of the state." (*Extract No. 53 of Peshwa's Daftar, Selection 36*)

From this letter it may be inferred either that a great change have taken place in Gopikabai after she gave birth to a son, or that her jealousy and intriguing disposition at an earlier period of her life have been unduly stressed by those who have written about her.

#### No. 28. PURANDHAR.

Purandhar Fort is situated 20 miles south-east of Poona city. It was captured by Sivaji in 1647. In 1665 it was besieged by the forces of Aurangzeb, and after an heroic defence was saved, when Sivaji's proposal to enter the Moghul service and to give up a part of his territory was agreed to by Aurangzeb. In 1670 Sivaji recaptured the Fort. After the power of the Peshwas at Poona had superseded that of the descendants of Sivaji, Purandhar was the usual stronghold to which the Peshwas retreated when unable to remain in safety at their capital. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XX, 396, see also *Gaz. Rom. Pres.* XVIII, II, index)

#### No. 29. THE KING OF TANJORE.

With its capture and conquest by the Maratha forces in 1674, Tanjore became an independent Maratha Principality. It maintained its independence for 181 years, till it was finally annexed by the British in 1855.



Its first Raja was Venkaji, the half-brother of Sivaji. The king of Tanjore, here alluded to, was Tuljaji Raja, Venkaji's eighth successor, who ruled from 1765 to 1787.

The following account may help to give an idea of the relations between the Madras Government, the Nawab of the Carnatic and the Maratha Principality of Tanjore.

"In 1762, when, in consequence of the war with the French, the finances of the Nabob of the Carnatic were at a low ebb, the Nabob wrongfully claimed large arrears of tribute and applied to the English for assistance to reduce the Rajah, Pretaph Singh. Military assistance was refused; but through the mediation of the Madras Government, the Rajah agreed to pay to the Nabob 22 lakhs of Rupees as arrears, and thereafter a fixed tribute of four lakhs annually.

"In 1771 the Rajah of Tanjore, Tooljajee, son of Pretaph Singh, prepared an expedition against the Poligar of Ramnad, a dependant of the Carnatic, to recover some districts which he said had been wrested from him in 1763. Mediation failed; and at the request of the Nabob [*of the Carnatic*] a force was sent to punish the Rajah. During the hostilities, however, the son of the Nabob concluded a treaty of peace with the Rajah, without the knowledge and consent of the English, by which the Rajah bound himself to pay eight lakhs of arrears of tribute and thirty-two and a half lakhs as the expenses of the expedition, and to furnish the Nabob with troops in time of war. The clandestine conclusion of this engagement, of course, was condemned by the Madras Government; and as the Rajah failed to perform its terms, the renewal of hostilities was threatened, unless the Rajah gave up the Fort of Vellum and the districts of Coiladdy and Elungux. A good excuse indeed.

"The Rajah of Tanjore again fell into arrears in 1739 [*a misprint for 1773*], and was of course believed to be intriguing with Hyder Ali and the Mahrattas for a supply of troops. It was pre-texted that his position in the country, to the defence of which he

contributed nothing, was felt to be a source of constant danger ; and it was, therefore, determined to take the opportunity, while enforcing the Nabob's claim, entirely to reduce him. Tanjore was taken on the 16th September, 1773, and the Rajah and his family were made prisoners in the fort. The Court of Directors entirely disapproved of this expedition and directed the restoration of the Rajah. In consequence of this order, and notwithstanding the remonstrance of the Nabob of the Carnatic, the Rajah was restored on the 11th April, 1776 ; and a treaty was concluded with him by which he bound himself to do nothing contrary to the Company's interest, to receive English troops for the protection of his country, to contribute four lakhs of pagodas towards military expenses, and to grant the Company 277 villages." (Hickey, *The Tanjore Mahratta Principality*, 124-126)

The treaty of 1762 between Pertab Singh and the Company, that of 1772 between Tuljaji and the Nawab and that of 1776 between Tuljaji and the Company are given in full by Hickey, *The Tanjore Mahratta Principality*, Appendix, VIII—XIX.

The part played by the Madras Government is severely criticised by Chritian Frederick Swartz, a Protestant Missionary, residing for many years in Tanjore, and also by other Protestant Missionaries. Swartz wrote that Tuljaji "was deeply offended and disgusted by the injustice with which he had been treated by the Madras Government". (*Ibid.* 106) It would even seem that Tuljaji was ready to embrace Christianity. One cause, however, which probably militated against the adoption of that religion was the determination of the Madras Government to assist the Nabob of Arcot in the object, which he had long in view, of dethroning the Rajah. For, when the Rajah was on the point of embracing Christianity, "he was so deeply offended and disgusted by the injustice with which he had been treated by the Madras Government that he abandoned his intention." (*Ibid.* 106)

This adverse criticism of the Madras Government by the

Protestant Missionaries does not seem to have been inspired by religious prejudice. Vincent Smith, referring to the years 1766-1769, also speaks of "the scoundrelly Nawab of the Carnatic and of the corrupt and weak Government of Madras, his tools and abettors." (Smith, *The Oxford History of India*, 485) And there is no reason to believe that between the years 1669 and 1776 either the Nawab or the Madras Government had changed for the better.

#### No. 30. SIRA, MUDGERE, GURRAMKONDA.

On the 5th March, 1771, Haidar Ali's army was totally routed by the Marathas at Cherkuli. "Haidar fled on horseback to Seringapatam. Tipu, who was thought to have fallen, escaped in disguise. For ten days the Marathas were engaged in dividing the spoils. They then sat down before Seringapatam with a large force, the remainder being employed in ravaging the whole country above and below the Ghats. Haidar could produce little effect on them; and in June, 1772, a treaty was concluded by which he bound himself to pay thirty lakhs of rupees, one half at once, besides five lakhs for "durbar expenses". For the balance Kolar, Hoskote, Dodballapur, Sira, Maddagiri, Chanrayadurga and Gurramkonda were left in their hands." (*Mysore Gaz.*—1930 edition—II, IV, 2507) Sira, Maddagiri and Gurramkonda are obviously the Scirry, Mudgurry and Gorumcoondah of Mostyn's *Diary*.

"Sira, in Tumkur District, Mysore, was founded by the chief of Ratnagiri; but before being completed, was captured by the Sultan of Bijapur in 1638, and formed part of the jagir of Shahji, the father of Sivaji. In 1687 it came under the Moghuls, and was made the capital of their Carnatic province south of the Tungabhadra. In 1757 it was taken by the Marathas, and in 1761 it was captured by Haidar Ali. In 1766 his brother-in-law gave it up

again to the Marathas, from whom it was recaptured by Tipu Sultan in 1774." (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XXIII, 15-16)

"Mudgere is a southern taluk of Kadur District, Mysore, with an area of 435 square miles. The taluk contains one town, Mudgere." (*Ibid.* XVIII, 11)

"Gurramkonda is an ancient fortress in the Valyalpad taluk of Cuddapah District, Madras. The fort was always one of the most important strongholds in Cuddapah, and is supposed to have been first built by the Golkonda Sultans.....Gurramkonda was the capital of the Carnatic Balaghat at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Afterwards, when held by a local chief under the Nawab of Cuddapah, it was of such importance that the tenure was purely military . . . . When Mir Sahib betrayed Sira (1766), he received Gurramkonda as a jagir from the Marathas. Two years later he made it over to Haidar Ali, his brother-in-law. In 1771 Saiyid Shah, Haidar's general, surrendered it to Trimbak Rao. Tipu recaptured it in 1773. In 1791 the Nizam's forces, aided by a British Battery under Captain Read, besieged Gurramkonda and captured the lower fort, but the citadel held out till peace, when the place was ceded to the Nizam. In 1800 it was transferred to the British with the rest of the District of Cuddapah. (*Ibid.* XII, 412-413)

#### No. 31. WAI.

Wai is a north-western taluka of Satara. In 1659 Wai first passed into the hands of the Marathas, and save for a short period of Muhammadan occupation in 1690, it remained a Maratha possession, and became the head-quarters of the Rastia family. (*Imp. Gaz. of India*, XXIV, 348) It is probable that Wai passed to the Rastias during the lifetime of Gopikabai. "The [*Rastia*] family obtained its first power under the Maratha Government owing to Gopikabai, one of the daughters of Bikaji Naik Rastia,

being married to Balajirav Peshwa, entitled Nana Saheb." (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 677) According to the genealogical table of the Rastia family given by Forrest, Anant Rao Rastiah mentioned by Mostyn was Gopikabai's brother. (*Ibid.* I, 677)

## No. 32. THE MURDER OF NARAYAN RAO.

I. Mostyn's first account, on the very day of the tragedy, Monday, the 30th August, 1773, has all the characteristics of reliable information gathered by one who was on the spot.

He records in succession the various rumours as they reach him:

- (1) the outbreak of disturbances at one o'clock in the afternoon ;
- (2) the dispatch of servants in quest of information and their return after half an hour with the news that the soldiers had seized the palace ;
- (3) the unofficial gathering of the ministers at three o'clock at the chokey and their discussion as to what steps to take ;
- (4) at four o'clock, contradictory rumours of Narayan Rao's murder and of his imprisonment—followed by the report that Raghoba has been proclaimed Peshwa.

Nor does Mostyn give any undue importance to these various rumours: "As I cannot for certain learn whether Naron Row is really killed or not, I must defer advising my superiors of this sudden change untill to-morrow."

II. Mostyn's second account, on the day after the murder, is in keeping with his account of the previous day. He merely states the information which has reached him, without any attempt at dramatization by means of a detailed, vivid description.

- (1) Narayan Rao's murder and the burning of the body ;
- (2) the conspirators' intention to imprison Narayan Rao ;

- (3) Raghoba and Sumersing's secret agreement to kill him ;
- (4) the share of all the ministers, except Nana Farnavis and Hari Pant, in the plot to imprison Narayan Rao ;
- (5) Sakharam Bapu's part in carrying out the plot ;
- (6) the seizure of the palace by the soldiers ;
- (7) the devising of the plot six months previously, and its sudden consummation at the instigation of Raghoba and Sakharam Bapu ;
- (8) Narayan Rao's ignorance of the threatening danger ;
- (9) The secrecy observed by the conspirators ;
- (10) the political changes.

III. Mostyn's third account is contained in his letter written to Bombay on the day after Narayan Rao's murder. It is also a plain summary of events :

- (1) the seizure of the palace ;
- (2) Narayan Rao's vain appeal to Raghoba to save him ;
- (3) Narayan Rao's murder ; Raghoba's proclamation as Peshwa ;
- (4) the secrecy with which the conspirators went to work ;
- (5) the possibility of political changes ;
- (6) the need of making a present to Raghoba.

The closing sentence of the letter ; "As it will now become absolutely necessary to make Ragobah a present" . . . etc., jars upon one's feelings by its provoking unexpectedness. At the same time it is characteristic of the practical politician and matter-of-fact man of business ; and it brings home to us that Mostyn's account is a faithful representation of the events as they took place. Moreover, there is in Mostyn's triple account a gradual advance from the vague to the definite, from hesitation to certainty, which is a further sign of the writer's sincerity and truthfulness, apart from the absence of every attempt at fine writing. In this connection Mostyn's triple account may be usefully compared with Grant Duff's carefully written, vivid narrative, of which the opening sentence is full of dramatic appeal ; "But the attention of the whole of India was arrested, and there was a momentary pause

in the bustle of political affairs, by reports, which proved correct, of the murder of Narain Rao, Peishwa, on the 30th of August." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 698) Then there follows a detailed, well-planned, realistic narrative of the tragic event. (*Ibid.* I, 698-700) The total absence of all literary display in Mostyn's *Diary* creates an impression of genuine veracity. Mostyn's account is so obviously simple as to exclude deceit.

With this study of Mostyn's account of the murder of Narayan Rao before our mind, the following allegations made by Major B. D. Basu, I.M.S. (Retired), are passing strange: "Is there any wonder that Mr. Mostyn, seeing that he did not succeed in gaining the object for which he had been sent by his masters, tried to 'foment domestic dissensions' by abetting, if not directly instigating, the assassination of Narain Rao? It is also very significant that nowhere in his despatches has Mr. Mostyn ever hinted that the assassination was carried out by Raghoba. He could not have been ignorant of what the whole population of Poona were saying about the assassination. On the other hand he blackened the character of the murdered prince of whom Grant Duff writes; 'He was affectionate to his relations, kind to his domestics, and all men but his enemies loved him'". (Basu, *Rise of the Christian Power in India*, II, 48)

These allegations are passing strange. First of all Major Basu is mistaken in asserting that, according to Grant Duff, Mostyn was sent in 1772 to Poona to foment domestic dissensions. First he quotes the passage from Grant Duff: "Mr. Mostyn was sent to Poona by the Bombay Government for the purpose of using every endeavour, by fomenting domestic dissensions or otherwise, to prevent the Mahrattas from joining Hyder Ali." Next he writes, "The Bombay Government were very anxious about Hyder and Nizam Ali at the time when the young Peshwa was assassinated."

But Grant Duff's phrase "fomenting domestic dissensions," applies to the second embassy in 1767. (Grant Duff, *History of*

*the Mahrattas*, I, 653-658) Consequently there can be no question, in the passage taken from Grant Duff, of fomenting dissensions, between Raghoba and Narayan Rao, but between Raghoba and Madho Rao. It is altogether against every canon of historical inference to wrench Grant Duff's phrase from its chronological context, to postdate it by five years, and to adduce it as a convincing proof of Mostyn's connivance at Narayan Rao's murder, when good reasons can be brought forward to show that Mostyn had nothing to do with the dastardly crime.

Furthermore when Major Basu wrote that "nowhere in his dispatches Mr. Mostyn has hinted that the assassination was carried out by Raghoba," he badly blundered. Mostyn writes, "But to cut him [*Narayan Rao*] off, from what I learn, was not the intention of those that planned the scheme for Ragobah's release, *and kept a secret between Ragobah and Sumersing*, the man that killed him." (*Diary*, 31-8-1773) Again: "The scheme was laid six months ago, and every opportunity for some months watched to put it into execution, but a favourable moment never offered till yesterday, and even then *it was hastened by Ragobah and Sacaram Bapoo*s having heard Naron Row had come to a resolution of confining them both in irons." (*Diary*, 31-8-1773)

Next Major Basu made bold to affirm

(1) that Mr. Mostyn "tried to foment domestic dissensions by abetting, if not directly instigating the murder of Narayan Rao;"

(2) that Mr. Mostyn "blackened the character of the murdered prince;" and

(3) that "the assassination of Narayan Rao was hailed with joy by Mr. Mostyn and the Bombay Government." (Basu, *Rise of the Christian Power in India*, II, 48.)

In dealing with these grave assertions we charitably suppose that, when Major Basu wrote this, he was in possession of unpublished documents that bear out his statements. On this hypothesis alone, can we refrain from making use of very plain language in commenting on Major Basu's so-called historical discoveries.



By way of conclusion we shall give another instance of Dr. Basu's vagaries as an historian. Grant Duff mentions the widespread rumour that Narayan Rao's murder was the result altering *dharawe* into *marawe* in the order given to the men who had to seize Narayan Rao. Grant Duff adds; "It is universally believed that the alteration was made by the infamous Anundee Bye."

The following is Major Basu's comment: "That woman, however bad she might have been, entertained a great affection for her nephew. She was a Brahman lady, and as such she felt great regard not only for human beings, but for dumb creatures also. No Brahman lady would herself kill or cause anyone to kill any animals. Anundey Bye was no exception to the rule. Our own conviction is that Mr. Mostyn had a hand in the matter. (Basu, *Rise of the Christian Power in India*, II, 41)

By way of comment and prescinding from the question of Anandibai's guilt, it is sufficient here to point out that historical facts belong to the realm of reality; they are not the result of metaphysical speculations on *ahimsa*, and much less are they determined by racial and religious antipathies raised to the dignity of "our own conviction".

Finally it should be borne in mind that a considerable period elapsed after Narayan Rao's murder, before the English began to give their support to Raghoba. Mostyn's attitude, as manifested in the *Diary*, is clearer than daylight; he is for ever warning the Bombay Government to have nothing to do with Raghoba: "All great officers are disgusted at Ragobah." (22-10-1773) "His army is rather decreased than recruited; some leave him in disgust, and others for want of pay; and though most of his troops are starving, I hear he has no money either to advance them, or even allow them the usual provisions." (17-10-1773) "Ragobah has undoubtedly behaved in a very unaccountable manner, not only to Nanna Furneese and to those who were Naron Rows friends, but to all the old ministers and great officers indiscriminately. All the former have left him in disgust." (15-11-1773) "Schemes are

forming against Ragobah." (26-11-1773) "I am told Ragobah escaped with difficulty, though not till he was wounded ; which, added to an intermittent fever and some ulcers on his knee, makes many think he is in a dangerous way." (2-12-1773) "But was he [*Raghoba*] now inclined to make offers, the situation of his affairs are such that it is doubtful to me if he has it in his power to give the Hon'ble Company these advantages they have a right to expect ; for his orders, I verily believe, would not now be obeyed". (2-12-1773) Similar passages might be easily multiplied to show that the British support, when given to Raghoba, had nothing to do with Narayan Rao's murder.

In writing all this, it is not our intention to champion the policy of expediency and opportunism, dictated by the Bombay Government and followed by Mostyn in his dealings with the Marathas ; though we should like to observe that the putting of expediency before principle is not the monopoly of the servants of the Christian Power in India ; for the Moghuls, the Marathas, the Jats, the rulers of Oudh and many others followed the same policy at some time or other. Nor is this policy a Christian principle at all ; just as it is not a Hindu or a Muhammadan principle, though it may be acted upon by Christians, Hindus and Muhammadans, not because of their religious tenets, but in spite of them ; inasmuch as from the earliest times it has been the custom of politicians, not to be guided by religious principles, but to ignore them, though at times they drag in God's name to give to a victory on the battlefield the appearance of Divine approval. This is an important distinction which Major Basu seems never to have grasped. Our end and aim is merely to point out that Major Basu's assertion that Mostyn was responsible for Narayan Rao's murder is an allegation pure and simple and a gratuitous calumny.

### No. 33. PARVATIBAI.

Parvatibai is one of the most pathetic figures in Maratha history. She was the wife of Sadasiva Rao who died on the

battlefield of Panipat, but Parvatibai refused to believe that she was a widow. She was no doubt upright and "a lady very much respected," (Macdonald, *Memoir and Life of the Late Nana Farnavis*, 24) but she seems to have been somewhat weak-minded. Anyhow, she persisted in her belief that her husband had not died, and refused to go through the religious ceremonies made on the occasion of a woman's incipient widowhood. When an impostor arose and pretended to be the true Sadoba of Panipat, Parvatibai was only too easily induced by priests, menials and other interested parties to acknowledge the impostor's claim.

Her belief was, however, not shared by Madho Rao, Raghoba and other responsible members of the administration ; and a most interesting document in proof of it is Madho Rao's will, in which he states that the misfortunes which had befallen the Peshwa family were due to the anger of the gods impatient with Parvatibai's disregard of the religious ceremonies to which a Brahman widow was bound to submit. Accordingly Madho Rao explicitly mentions in his will that Parvatibai should have her head shaved. (*Itihasa-Sangraha* edited by Parasnis)

However, it would seem that this clause of Madho Rao's will was quietly ignored ; for in 1773 Parvatibai had not yet assumed the weeds of widowhood and still clung to the belief that the impostor was her husband, kept in bonds by his enemies. At last in 1776, when the impostor, who had succeeded in escaping from prison, was recaptured, Parvatibai's doubts were set at rest. She was confronted with the impostor, acknowledged her mistake, and Sadoba was beheaded (1776).

But before her death Sadoba's story "obtained immediate credence [*in Bombay*], and the Bombay government to whom he very soon sent wukeels and addressed letters, received the overtures of Suddaba, as they called him, and were evidently hopeful that this fresh insurrection would work in their favour." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, II. 48). Mostyn was also fully

persuaded that the impostor was the real Sadoba. (*Diary*, the 30th January, 1774)

It may here be remarked that the leaders of the Barbhai plot did not act honourably when, in order to persuade Parvatibai to accompany Gangabai to Purandhar, they held out to her promises of Sadoba's release, (*Diary*, the 30th January, 1774) thus conniving at a piece of shameful deception, whilst they themselves could not have any doubts about the imposture of the claimant.

#### No. 34. MARATHA CLAIM ON KORA AND ALLAHABAD.

"On his [*Shah Alam II*] arrival at the capital, the Mahrattas, enthroned him with the usual ceremony, which in such circumstances could only be termed a mockery, and caused him to issue such firmans and grants as best coincided with their views ; and the Shah, as a reward for their pretended fidelity to his cause, made over to them by a formal instrument the province of Korah and Allahabad and also every territory east of Delhi without exception, thus giving them an unrestrained commission to extend their ravages into all the countries on each side of the Ganges." (Hamilton, *Historical Relations of the Rohilla Afghans*, 170-171) According to this account, the Maratha claim on Kora and Allahabad dates back to December, 1771, when "Shah Alum, having taken leave of his English friends, was met by Mahadajee Sindia, escorted to the camp of Visajee Kishen, under whose auspices he entered his capital, and was seated on the throne in the end of December, 1771" (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 680)

Another account states that the claim of the Marathas on Kora and Allahabad originated in December, 1772, when "a battle took place [*between the Emperor's troops and the Marathas*] in the environs of Delhi, in which the Mahrattas were victorious after an obstinate conflict. . . . . The terms required by the Mahrattas on this occasion were far from immoderate ; they

obliged him . . . . . to give them a grant of Korah and Kurrah, two provinces east of the Jumna, adjoining their frontier in Bundelcund, which the English government had obliged Shujah-ud-Dowlah to cede for the emperor's support." (*Ibid.* I, 704)

But the Maratha claim on Kora and Allahabad dates prior to the year 1771.

During the reign of Ahmad Shah (1748-1754) the Moghuls were at war with the military leaders in the neighbouring provinces. At the head of the Moghul forces was Safdar Jang of Oudh, Ahmad Shah's vizier, who "entered into a treaty with the Mahratta chiefs, Apa Jee and Mulhar Row, procuring their alliance by giving them a large sum in advance and bonds to a considerable amount, in consequence of which they joined him with a body of 50,000 horse." (Hamilton, *Historical Relations of the Rohilla Afghans*, 104)

These warlike operations were cut short, when the news spread that Ahmad Shah Abdali was marching against Delhi (1756). Thereupon the Moghul Emperor, Alamgir II, (1754-1759) bade Safdar Jang return to Delhi. Accordingly Safdar Jang made peace with the Rohillas against whom he was fighting, on condition "of their delivering him bonds to the amount of 51 lakhs to be discharged out of the ensuing collections of the country, with a promise to pay every year in future a *peishkush* or quit-rent of five lakhs to the Emperor, of whom they solemnly professed to hold their territories in fealty. The bonds, the obligation of which the Rohillas had not the most distant idea of ever fulfilling, were delivered by Safdar Jang to the Maratha commander, Mulhar Row, as a security for a part of the subsidy still remaining due to him ; and on the before-mentioned terms the Afghans were re-instated in all their former possessions, and affairs in Rohilcund once more bore the aspect of tranquillity." (*Ibid.* 112, 113)

The following remark is added by Hamilton in a note : "It may not be here improper to remark that this event, however remotely, may be considered as the origin of all the subsequent revolutions in Rohilcund, being the foundation of the Mahratta claims in that quarter." (*Ibid.* 113, note.)

The Bengal Government were apparently aware of this ; for in their letter to Mostyn they allude to the ancient claim which the Marathas have to Kora and Allahabad.

In the light of this ancient claim, the question arises with what right the English disposed of Kora and Allahabad, "which the English Government of Bengal had obliged Shujah-ud-Dowlah to cede for the Emperor's support, as long as he chose to continue under the British protection ; but as he had voluntarily relinquished all the benefits of their alliance, they claimed the right of disposing of the reversion, and determined to repel any attempt the Mahrattas might make for their occupation." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 704) The Maratha claim on Kora and Allahabad was prior to Ahmad Shah Abdali's occupation of Delhi, on the 11th September, 1757. Eight years later, the districts of Allahabad and Kora were cut off from Oudh and assigned to Shah Alam by the treaty of Allahabad in 1765. This treaty quietly ignored the ancient Maratha claim.

Again when the English determined to repel any attempt the Marathas might make to occupy Kora and Allahabad, they did so on the plea that Shah Alam, who granted these districts to the Marathas in 1772, had no right to dispose of them, since he had abandoned the protection of the British. But here also it must not be lost sight of that Alamgir II had already practically disposed of Kora and Allahabad in favour of the Marathas in 1756.

It is true that the Maratha claim of 1756 was mainly concerned with money to be paid by the Rohillas ; but from a Maratha point of view this implied also the right of invasion and occupation in order to enforce the payment that was not forthcoming.

## No. 35. THE DEFEAT OF THE JATS.

The great enemy of the Jats and of Nawal Singh, nominally the regent for his infant nephew, Kheri Singh, but in reality the Raja of Bhartpur, was Mirza Najaf Khan, Shah Alam's faithful general. (Qanungo, *History of the Jats*, I, 238-239)

Accordingly Nawal Singh joined the Marathas and fought with them on the 28th December, 1772, under the walls of Delhi. It was then represented to Alam Shah that Mirza Najaf Khan was the cause of all the trouble with the Marathas; and the faithful general was dismissed from service. (*Ibid.* 248-249) But three months later in May, 1773, Mirza Najaf Khan returned to Delhi with his reputation and power greatly increased by having served as general with the Marathas in their campaign against the Nawab of Oudh, Shuja-ud-daula. (*Ibid.* 250-251)

With Mirza Najaf Khan's return to power, Nawal Singh and the Jats were doomed to suffer one defeat after another. They lost the fort of Maidangarhi, they were defeated at Dankaur (15th September, 1773); they lost the battle of Barsana (31st October, 1773), and finally had to surrender the city of Agra. (*Ibid.* 250-266)

Regarding the capture of Agra, the following account gives us an insight into ways and stratagems nobody can admire.

About this time the news spread that the Nawab Wazir-ul-Mulk (Shuja-ud-daula) was coming to the assistance of Nawal Singh; in fact he had sent in advance a detachment for taking charge of the fort of Agra from the Jat garrison. Najaf Khan, hearing this, gave up his plan of subduing the Jat country around Deeg, and, practically running a race for Agra, reached there just in time to prevent the junction of the Jats with the troops of Wazir-ul-Mulk . . . . Finding his own design upon Agra anticipated, Shuja-ud-daula at once changed front, and with consummate duplicity sent a letter of congratulation to Najaf Khan, assuring him that he had come to these parts to assist the Amir-ul-umra! At the same time Major Polier,—the commandant of the detach-

ment sent ahead—was thus secretly instructed: "If the *qiladar* of Akbarabad [*Agra*] consents to give up the fort according to previous agreement and understanding, then, throwing off the mask at once, you should try to get into the fort by every means. If you fail, you are to act under the command of Najaf Khan and obey him as your superior." The citadel of Agra was besieged by Najaf Khan and Major Polier. The *qiladar* tried without success many tricks to bring in secretly the troops of Shuja-ud-daula. After defending it bravely for some time, he gave up the fort on the promise of the safety of life and property of the garrison. Najaf Khan entered the city of Agra on the 11th December, 1773. The fort fell about the beginning of February, 1774. (*Ibid.* 268-269)

#### No. 36. RAGHOBHA'S UNPOPULARITY.

The triple account of Raghoba's defeat at Bidar proved to be a false rumour. But from this we may reasonably infer that there were secret forces at work to make Raghoba unpopular. Bazaar rumours are often false, but they are not always meaningless. "From the reports of those partial actions the unpopularity of Rugoba might be read in repeated accounts of his being defeated wounded, or at the point of death." (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 706)

It has been impossible to trace the extract of one of Mostyn's letters quoted by Grant Duff, where it is alleged: "However one [*man*] cut through the tent walls, and made a blow at Rugoba, which took just below his right shoulder, cut four inches down the arm, and half through the bone; afterwards a firing commenced, when a musket ball gazed along his left arm, so that he is now lame of both arms, has a fever and several ulcers above his knee." The fever, the ulcers and the wounds are mentioned by Mostyn, in his *Dairy*; but the other details given in the above extract are missing. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 706, note)



## No. 37. THE NIZAM'S DEFEAT.

From Mostyn's account it would seem that in the conflict between Raghoba and the Nizam the latter had always the upper hand. But Mostyn only went by the rumours spread by Raghoba's enemies ; in reality the Nizam came off second best and was the first to give in.

Raghoba has been severely blamed for granting such easy terms to his enemies. "Rugonath Rao, to the great joy of his domestic enemies, in an effusion of misplaced confidence, immediately restored the whole [*of the territory yielded by the Nizam*] ; and though little can be said in excuse of his being thus cajoled by the well-known Nizam Ally, it is one of the many proofs that he was still more weak than wicked. (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 707)

Raghoba's action may, however, be viewed in another light. He was anxious to retain the peshwaship ; he knew that he was surrounded by enemies at home ; hence he was not only ready but anxious to make peace with his enemies abroad. He was probably aware of the risks he ran in trusting the Nizam ; but, all things considered, this may have seemed to him the wisest plan. That the Nizam proved an unfaithful ally does not necessarily imply a lack of political insight on the part of Raghoba, it rather casts a slur upon the treacherous prince who made promises and broke them.

## No. 38. THE BARBHAI PLOT.

Mostyn's Diary disproves the contention of those who would have us believe that the plot against Raghoba was entered upon after it had become known that Gangabai, the wife of the murdered Peshwa, was pregnant, and after it had been discovered that Anandibai was trying her utmost to bring about Gangabai's miscarriage. The plot was not an eleventh hour affair,

On Tuesday, the 25th January 1774, Mostyn writes that he is anxious to see Moroba, "as I may probably be able to learn something of what is intended by the party [*which*], I have for a long time been privately acquainted, is forming against Ragobah by almost all the Brahman officers and old ministers. (*Diary*, 25-1-1774)

Again on Sunday, the 30th January, 1774, Mostyn writes to Calcutta, "I, in my different addresses, advised you of the situation of affairs here and also with the disaffection of the ministers to Ragobah's government. They did not however openly appear to act against him till yesterday," *i.e.*, when Gangabai was carried off to Purandhar. (*Diary*, 30th January, 1774)

Mostyn's statement that he has often spoken of the disaffection of the ministers with regard to Raghoba is made good in many an entry of the *Diary*. In January, 1774, the plotters thought that the time had come for them to carry out their plans; but from Mostyn's *Diary* it may be rightly inferred that they had long been silently at work, before they ventured to throw off the mask by declaring open warfare against Raghoba. Gangabai's pregnancy was the occasion, not the cause of the Barbhai plot; its true cause was probably inspired by motives much less patriotic than are at times ascribed to the "Twelve Brothers."

#### No. 39. TRIMBAK RAO MAMA.

"Trimbuck Rao Mama was the maternal uncle of the late Sēwdasheo Chimnaje Bhow," (Grant Duff, *History of the Mahrattas*, I, 603) Forrest's statement that "Trimbak Rao married Sadashiv Pant's sister," is not correct. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 689) It may here be added that Trimbak Rao was a distinguished soldier, and eventually fell in an action, while commanding an army in support of the ministerial party, in 1774. (*Ibid.* I, 689; Mostyn's *Letters*, the 31st March, 1774 and the 13th April, 1774.) In a battle which took place towards the end of March, 1774, Trimbak Rao's army was defeated, and he himself after

receiving several wounds was taken prisoner. He died of his wounds in April, 1774.

N<sup>o</sup>. 40. SALSETTE.

The Salsette question is fully discussed in a letter addressed by the Bombay Government to the Governor General and Council, Calcutta, on the 31st December, 1774. (Forrest, *Selections, Maratha Series*, I, 204) It is mentioned therein "that the Portuguese had this season received with their new Captain-General a very considerable reinforcement of men and ships from Europe, and that their undoubted designs were immediately to attempt recovering from the Marathas Salsette and Bassein... We have been compelled to this proceeding [*the capture of Thana in Salsette*] at this juncture and without your concurrence more from our duty to prevent these places from falling into the hands of the Portuguese than to retain them in the Company's possession, though this last is much to be desired." (*Ibid.* I, 206)

"As some offers had been made before by the Killedar of Thana, the principal fort of the island, to deliver it to us for a certain sum of money, the Resident was empowered to close with him on the most moderate terms; but the Killedar now excused himself from proceeding further in the business, alleging that the Ministry at Poona, having obtained intelligence of the designs of the Portuguese, had reinforced his garrison, which put it out of his power to deliver it up in the manner he before wished to do." [*Ibid.* I, 205] From this it would appear that these offers were made before the threatened Portuguese attack.

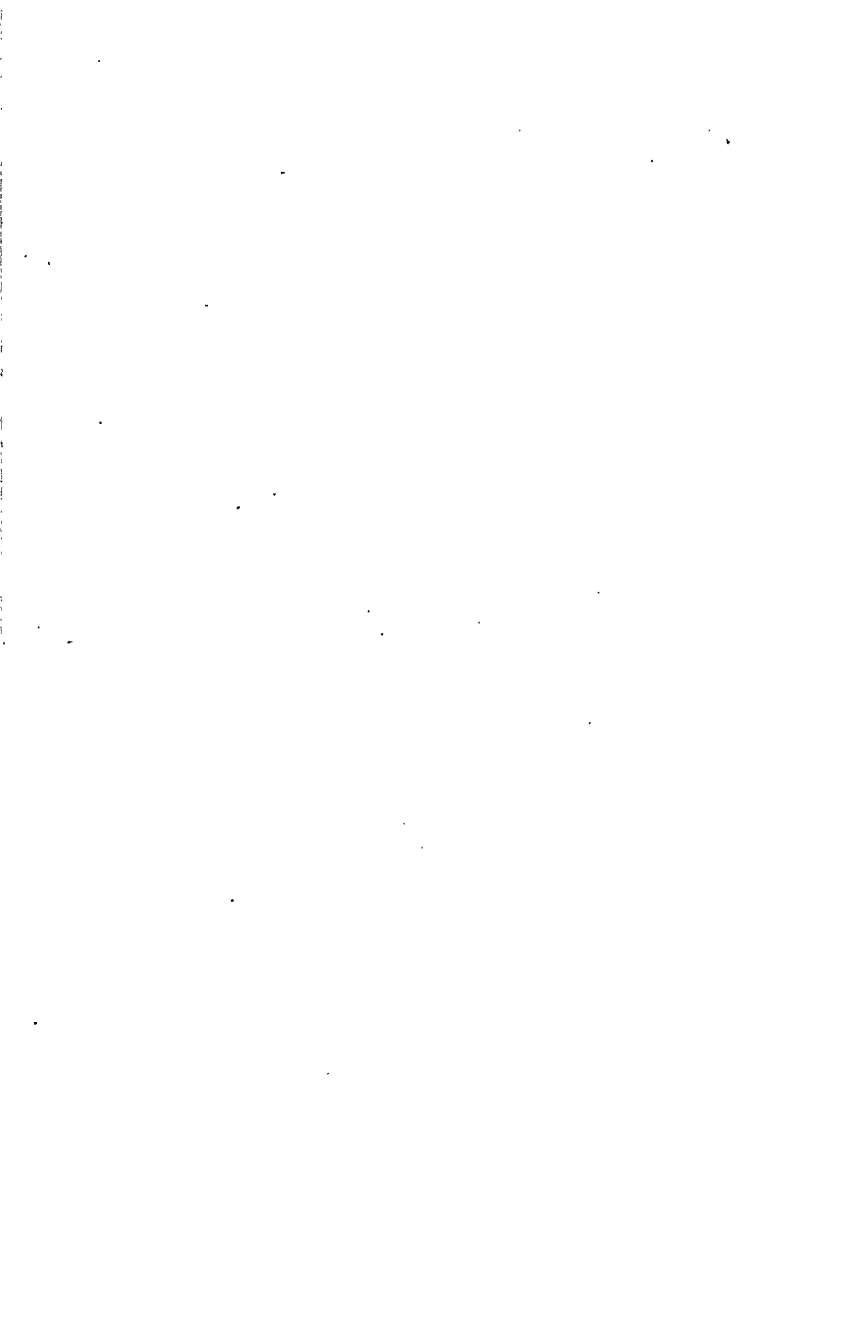
"It therefore only remained for us to send such a force as was judged necessary to reduce it [*Thana*], which was accordingly despatched under the command of Brigadier-General Gordon and Mr. Watson, Superintendent of our Marine; and we have the pleasure to acquaint you that Thana was taken by storm on the 28th instant (the 28th December, 1774), after our army had been thirteen days before the place." (*Ibid.* I, 205)

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